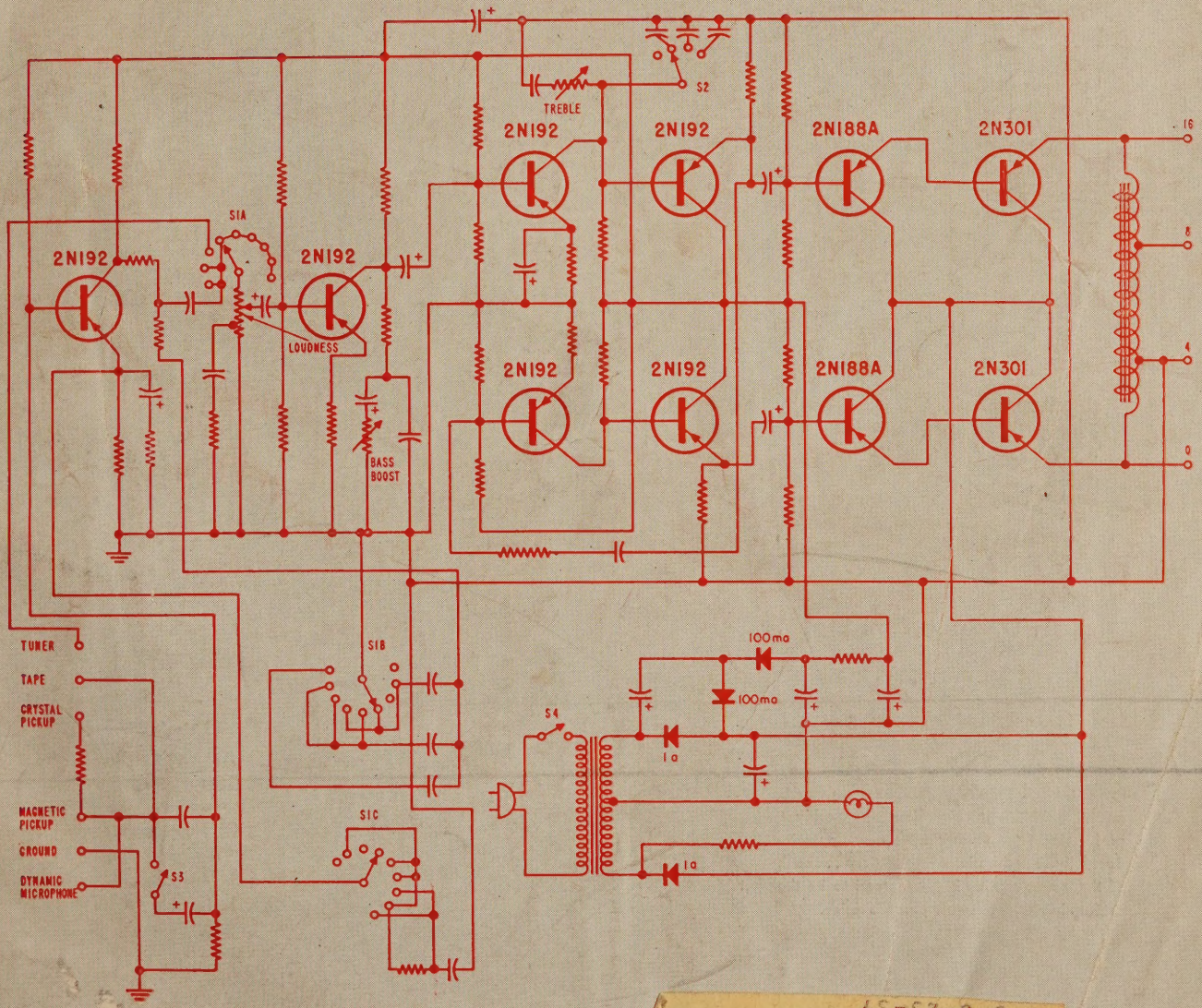
DECEMBER, 1957

TAPE EQUIPMENT

SERVICE

THE TECHNICAL JOURNAL OF THE TELEVISION-RADIO TRADE

INDEX



Ten-transistor audio amplifier with inputs for tuner, tape, magnetic or crystal pickups and dynamic microphone, which can deliver 20 watts to speaker load.

See circuit analysis, this issue

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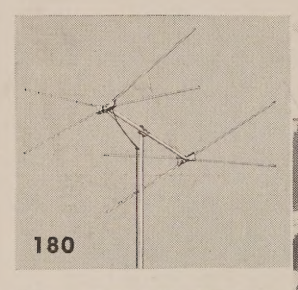

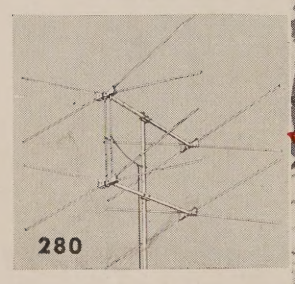

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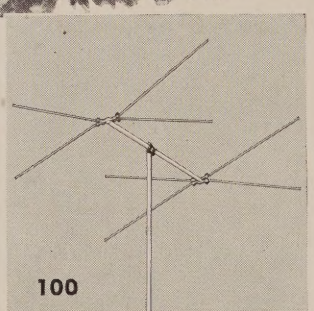

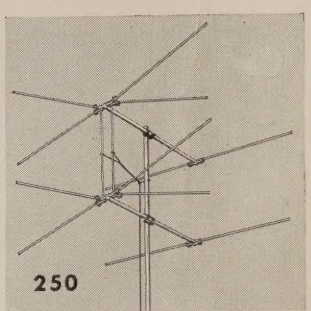

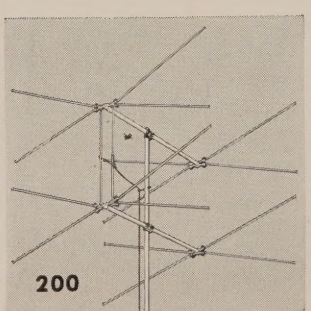

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LZX 200 8 element conical completely assembled, stacked array

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LZX 150 single array

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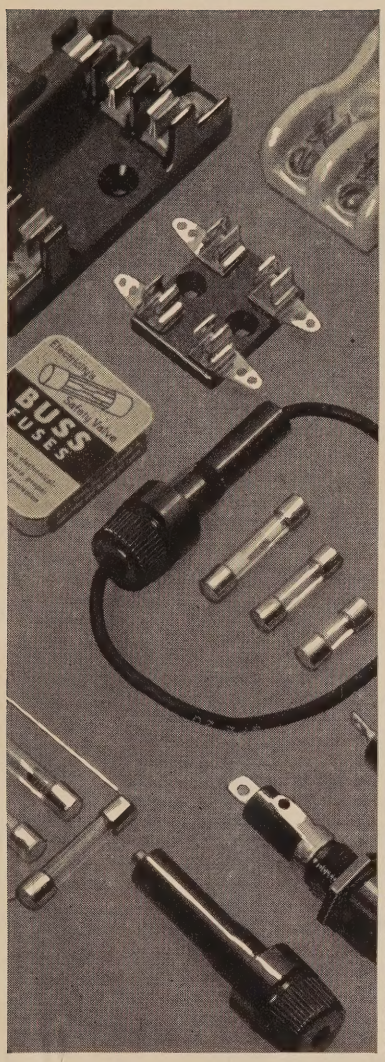

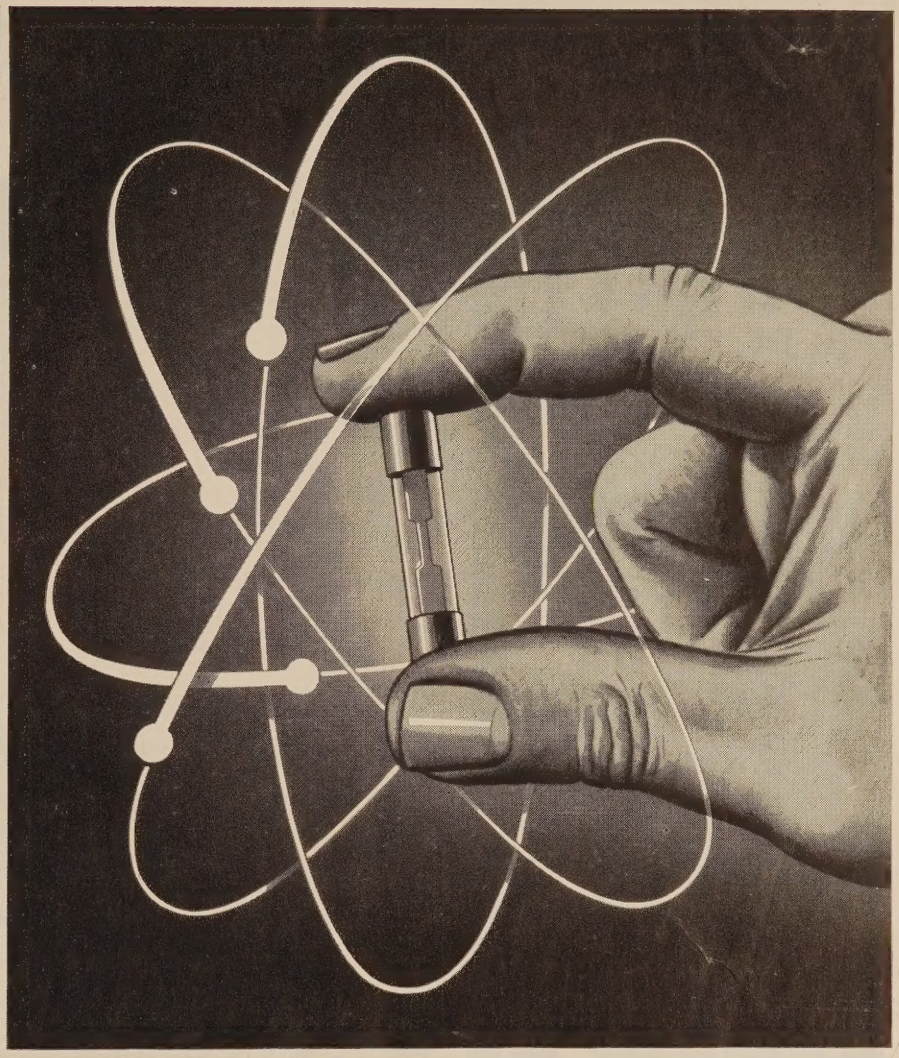

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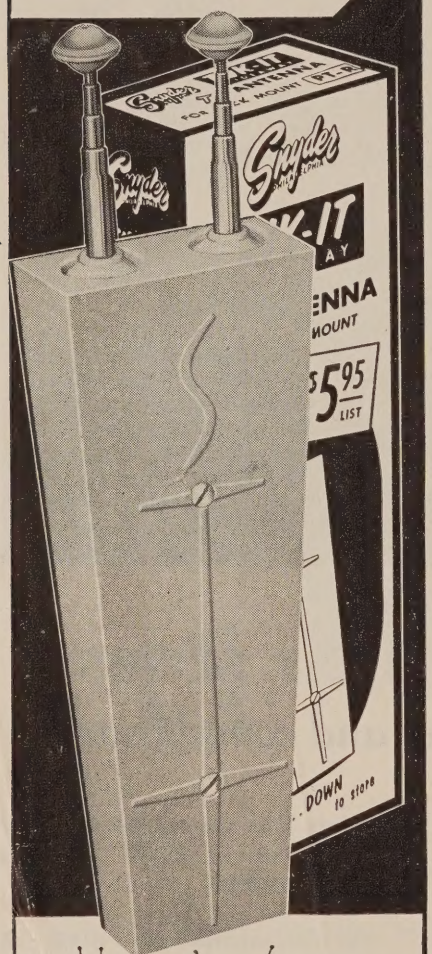

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Vol. 26 No. 12 DECEMBER, 1957

26th YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION

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Including RADIO MERCHANDISING and TELEVISION MERCHANDISING
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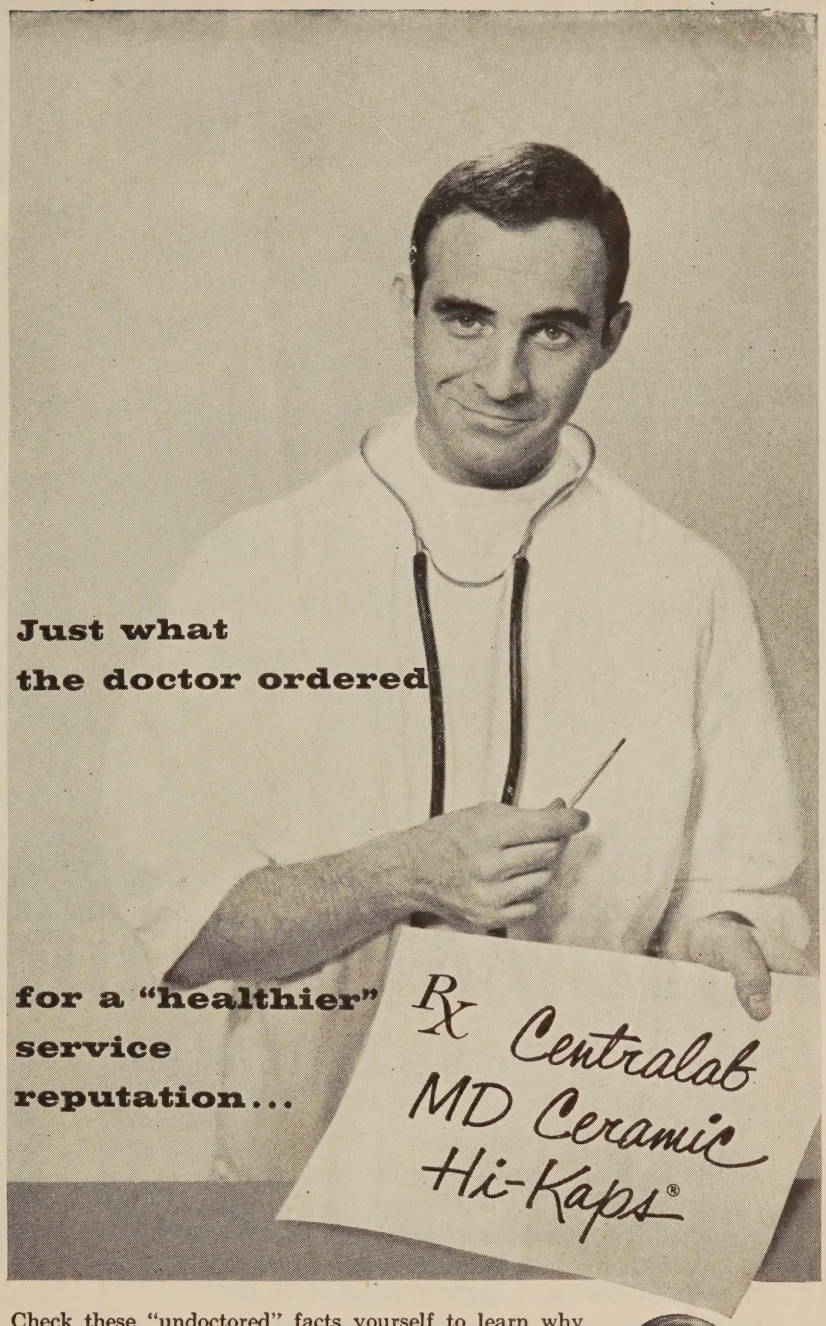

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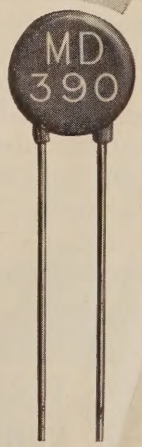

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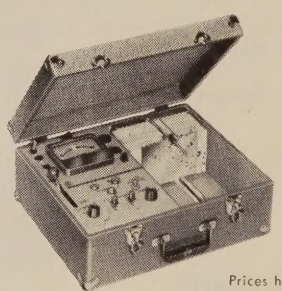

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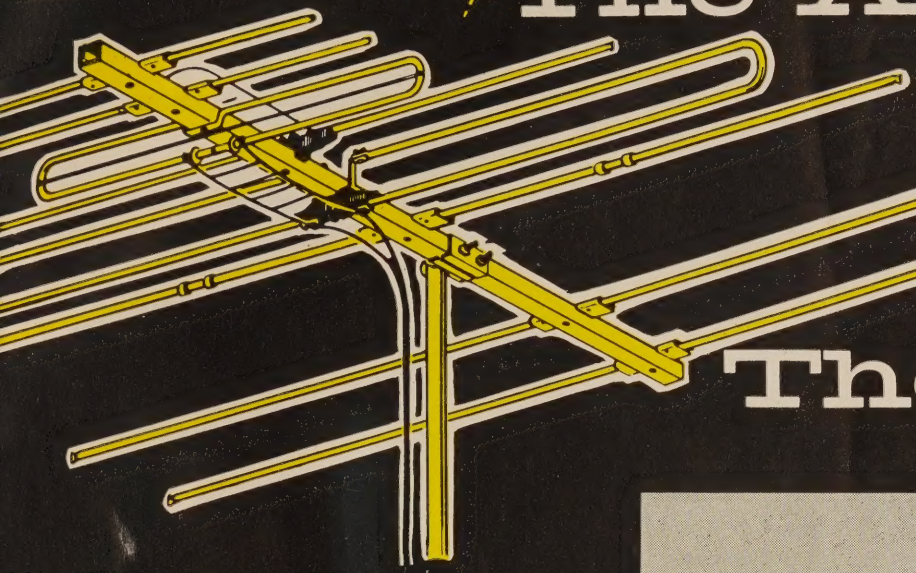

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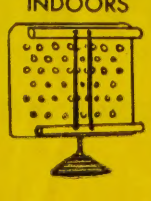
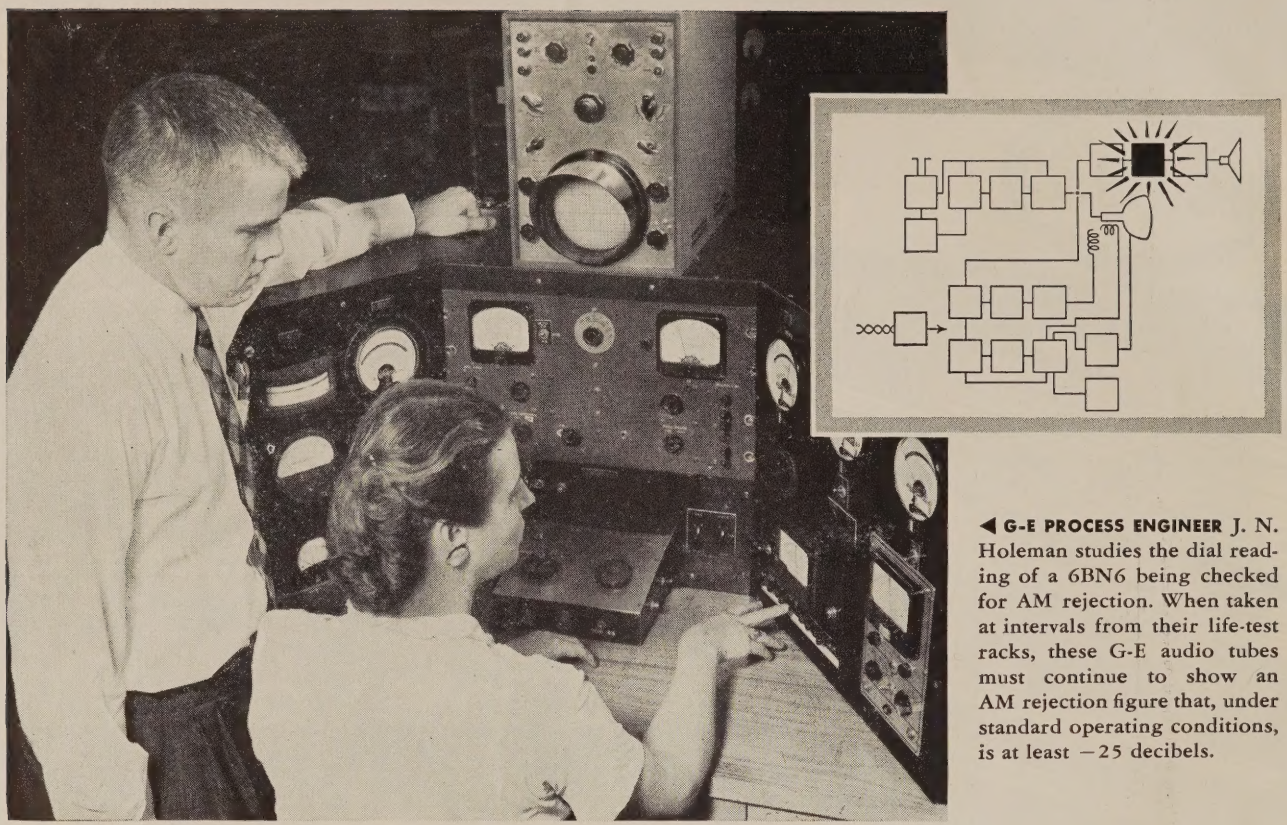


ANTENNA KITS



◀ **G-E PROCESS ENGINEER** J. N. Holeman studies the dial reading of a 6BN6 being checked for AM rejection. When taken at intervals from their life-test racks, these G-E audio tubes must continue to show an AM rejection figure that, under standard operating conditions, is at least −25 decibels.

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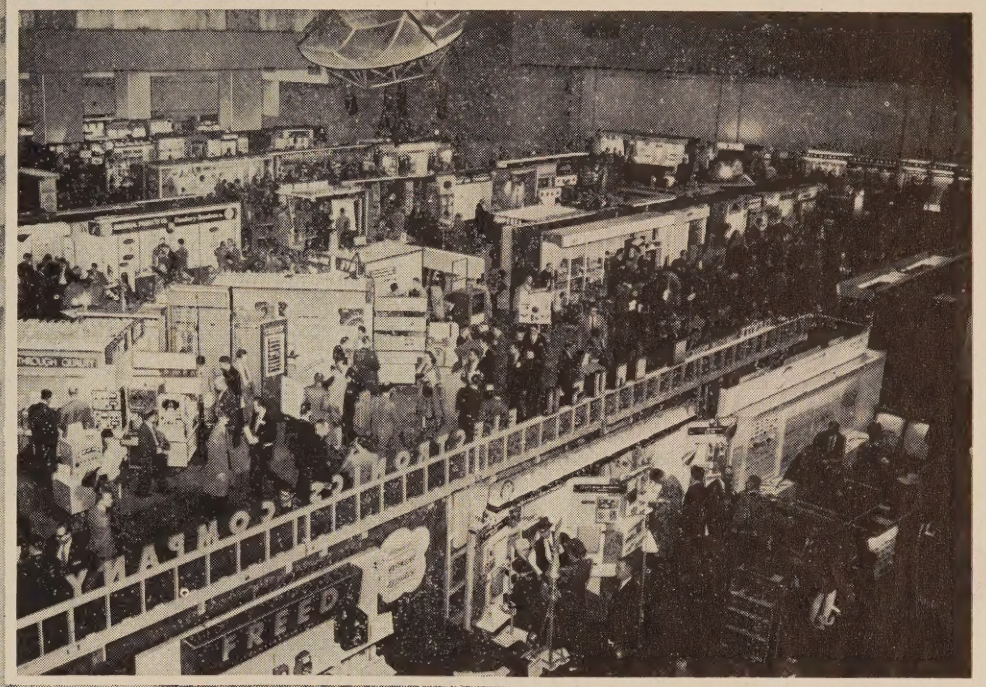

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SERVICE
THE TECHNICAL JOURNAL OF THE TELEVISION-RADIO TRADE

1957 In Review

ANOTHER BRILLIANT CHAPTER in the dynamic history of our industry was written during 1957. Sweeping changes were recorded everywhere—in radio, TV, audio, electronics.

The TV market, in the doldrums a year ago, forged ahead, sparked by the hardy impact of new developments in portables, picture tubes, sound systems and color.

Improvements in picture tubes played an important role in the progress parade. Designers found practical ways to handle deflection and resolution requirements of the short-neck 110° wide-angle tubes. And then went on to shorten the length of 21-inch and 24-inch 90° tubes by several inches, using new-type guns and novel circuitry. The new guns—of the straight type which eliminate the need for ion-trap magnets—have been found capable of delivering more than twice the beam current for the modulating voltage used in standard 90° chassis, providing better highlight and contrast control.

BASIC CIRCUIT MODIFICATIONS, elsewhere, also contributed to more efficient chassis. More stabilization and gain has been achieved by the use of quadrature-grid detectors; the —BN6 and —DT6 types. Also because of their increased sensitivity characteristics, neutrode and tetrode tuners were specified for a growing number of receivers, replacing the cascode tuners—long a favorite.

THE REDUCED-SIZE RECEIVER trend created a need for new approaches to chassis structure. Answers were found in stacked printed-wiring boards, miniature components and semiconductors.

A large number of sets now use selenium and germanium diodes in *afc* nets to develop voltage for multivibrator-type horizontal oscillators.

SEMICONDUCTORS not only became a factor in TV during '57, but in radio—for home and auto—as well as in audio and test equipment.

The bulk of home radios—and a quantity of auto sets, too—produced during the year, feature the use of transistors and diodes, and the audio sections of many TV models include all-transistor amplifiers.

TO FACILITATE COMPACT-CHASSIS TROUBLESHOOTING test-gear manufacturers developed a wide assortment of analyzers to localize quickly problems in tight areas. Even tube testers underwent a radical design change during the year. Here, too, the essential factor—speed—received prime consideration through the use of isolation-type quick-check circuits and the development of automated code-card systems.

AUDIO SCORED a huge success during '57. In packaged phonos, and in combinations featuring radio and TV, the accent was on sound quality. Practically every package or combination made—portable or console—used multiple speakers, high-output amplifiers and three or four-speed changers. And FM—the forgotten medium—received a tremendous boost, thanks to audio's growth. It became a must in most tuners used in radio-phonos because of its wide-band noise-free features.

TAPE also found itself in the spotlight in '57, thanks not only to equipment improvements,[1] but the extensive libraries of prerecorded tapes produced for both monaural and stereo playing.

COLOR-TV also made excellent progress during 1957. The introduction of all-glass picture tubes with graded-hole shadow masks, coupled with streamlined circuitry, added a new dimension to the color receiver. Picture brightness was increased to a point where daylight viewing is now possible; color adjustment controls—only two are required now—were brought up front; and convergence and purity problems were minimized through the use of the new tube and neutralizing component improvements.

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONIC expansion was outstanding, too, during the year. System packages were produced for the longest list of services ever booked, which included two-way, closed-circuit TV, control and computer networks, plant, office and hotel-motel sound, and commercial-TV links using hilltop *uhf* and *vhf* boosters and translators.

IN EVERY FIELD, solid growth and progress were recorded during 1957—a record spelling broadening opportunities for the progressive Service Man in the year ahead—in installation, service and maintenance.

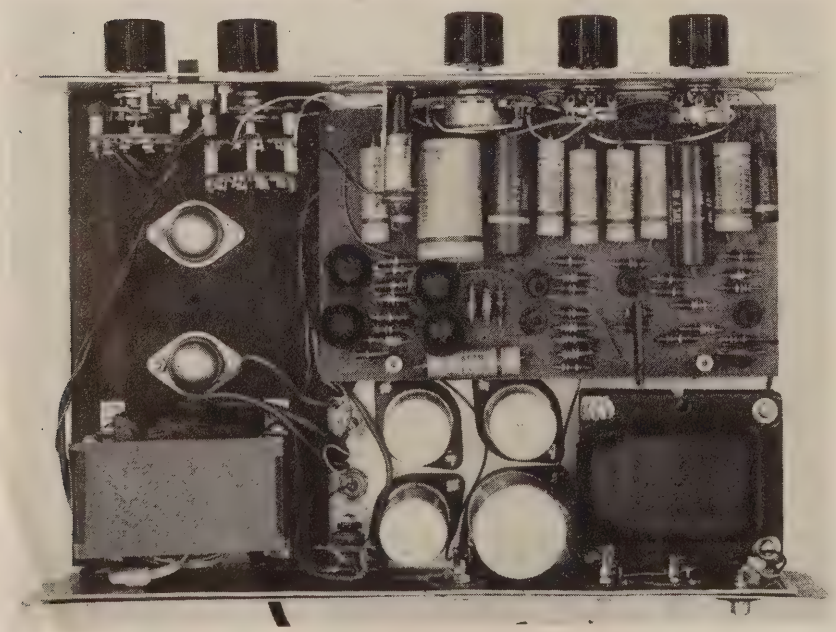
[1] *An exclusive progress report on tape-equipment developments in 1957 appears in this issue, pages 18 to 23.*

[See Front Cover]

9-Transistor 20-

Unit, Designed for Phono and Commercial-Sound Applications, Features

TEST EQUIPMENT for servicing transistorized amplifiers: audio oscillator (left), ac millivoltmeter (center) and 'scope.



UNDER-CHASSIS view of the all-transistorized power amplifier. Transformer at lower right is autoformer.

THE TRANSISTOR has been regarded, from its inception, as an efficient audio amplifier.

In the early days, though, its limited frequency response and gain restricted use to simple devices, where size, more than volume and quality, were important factors. Today, however, improved transistor production and design techniques have made it possible to build amplifiers with high gains and wide response.

An example of a recently-developed high-gain (20-watt) broad-frequency (20 cps to 30 kc) amplifier[1] which uses transistors throughout is diagrammed on the *cover* and in Fig. 1. In addition to the gain and response features, the amplifier's hum level is more than 100 db below rated output, compared to 60 db in most tube-type amplifiers.

Transistors are also non-microphonic and, hence transistorized amplifiers can be mounted on or within speaker cabinets and no cushioning is necessary.

Power Efficiency

One of the highlights of the transistor amplifier is its drastically reduced power consumption. At ordinary room sound levels (2 watts), this amplifier consumes only 3 watts of power, actually less average power than an electric clock. A 60 per cent efficient device, the amplifier requires but 30 watts of power when delivering its full-rated, continuous power of 20 watts to a speaker load; power consumption is proportional to power output.

While this amplifier has been designed for operation from 117 *v ac*, the maximum operating voltage applied to any component in the circuit is only 25 *v*, and accordingly the amplifier may be operated from a 32 or 24-*v* battery source. When operated from a 12-*v* battery, output will be down slightly. For many applications, sufficient power output can be obtained even when operated from a 6-*v* battery as in a vehicle or in a country cabin where a hot-shot bat-

[1] *Vico 77*

Watt AF Amplifier

by GEORGE YOUNG, Video Instrument Co., Inc.

Inputs for Magnetic, Crystal or Ceramic Pickups, Tuners and Tape

tery or flashlight cells might be used as the power source.

In servicing the transistor amplifier, performance checks may be made on the bench by applying a signal to each of the inputs, one at a time, and measuring the signal at the output. At the same time, a frequency response check can be made. Such tests will show up any changes that could occur in components due to aging or some latent defect. Signal tracing can be used to localize any troubles that might occur.

The only heavy components in this amplifier are two transformers; a power transformer and output *autoformer*. The latter performs the functions of an output transformer, but it has only one winding. The total impedance of the whole unit is only 16 ohms; this provides direct coupling of a 16-ohm speaker to the push-pull output stage. An 8-ohm or a 4-ohm speaker is connected to a tap on the autoformer and direct-coupled to one side of the push-pull output circuit. It has been found that there is far less loss introduced by the autoformer than would be introduced by a conventional output transformer. This arrangement provides effective speaker damping.

There are six stages in this amplifier. The first two are single-ended, the remaining four are push-pull. Generous use is made of feedback throughout to insure stability and freedom from distortion. In addition, the circuit features frequency equalizers, and scratch and rumble filters. Due to the lower impedances involved when using transistors, relatively higher capacitor and lower resistance values are required in the frequency-compensating networks.

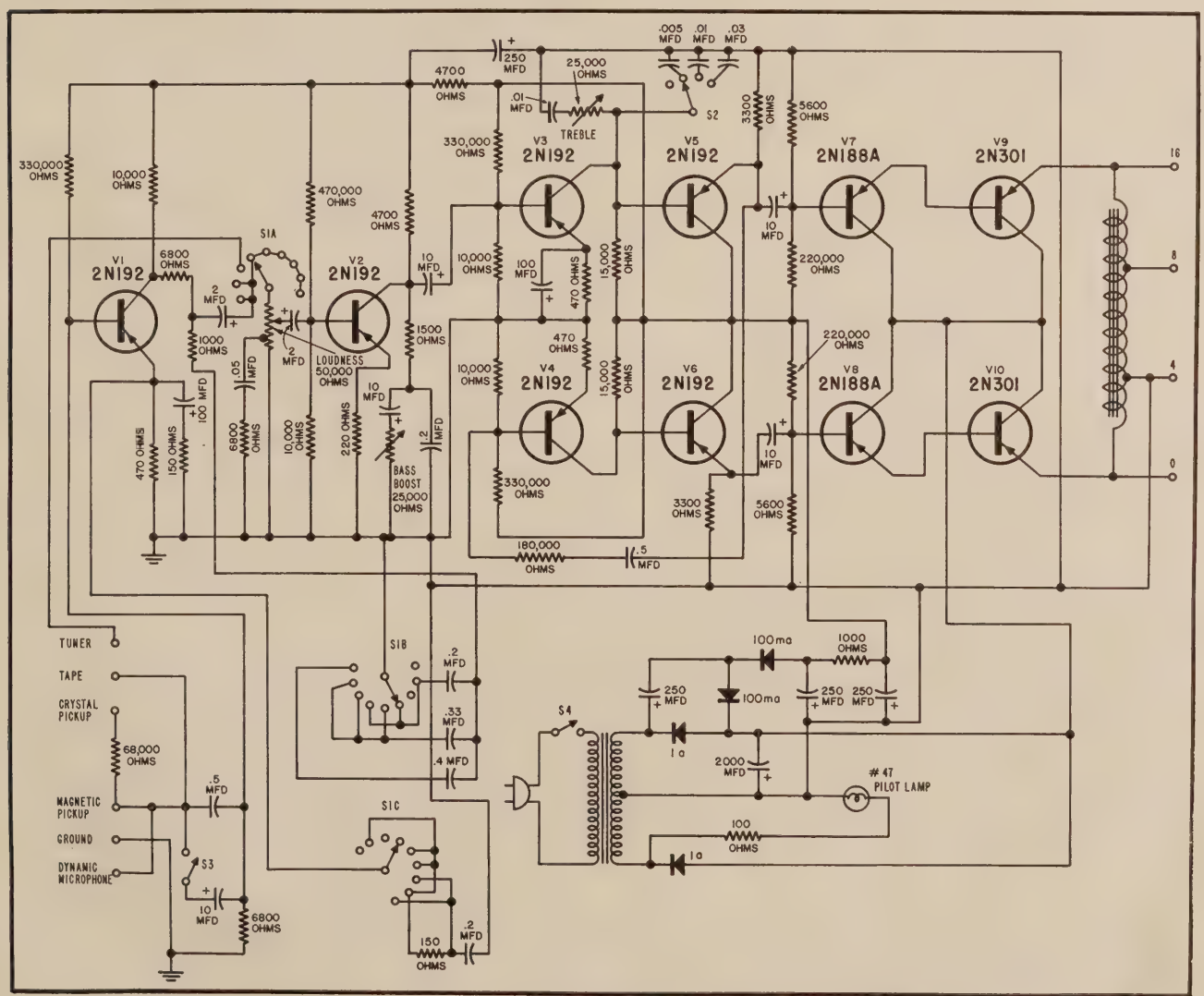


FIG. 1: Complete circuit of Vico 77 20-watt all-transistor power amplifier.

THIS MONTH IN SERVICE

CONSUMER PROGRAM DRAMATIZING SERVICE PROBLEMS ANNOUNCED BY MANUFACTURER-- A concerted effort--in the form of a build-confidence program--to bring into focus the problems of the modern radio and TV service shop has been announced by Westinghouse. . . . Key to the campaign is a pamphlet titled--This is the Story of a TV Set--bringing some of the little known facts of servicing to the consumer, such as the basic costs that go into a service call, and underscoring the fact that consumers really get a buy in service today. . . . Pamphlets are being supplied free together with window displays and streamers.

PROPOSED SERVICE LAW IN DES MOINES TABLED--The City Council in Des Moines, Iowa, recently voted to shelve an ordinance calling for the licensing of TV Service Men. . . . The legislators noted that the public had not complained about service conditions in the city; they did not come in and ask for any controls, and accordingly it was felt there was no need for a bill. . . . The measure, which would have made it illegal to service TV sets without having a city license, would have been issued on passing an examination conducted by a five-member board selected by the City Council. . . . The ordinance had been proposed in the Spring of '57 by the Television Service Association of Des Moines, but opposed by another association--the Association of Independent Television Servicemen.

TRANSISTORIZED MICROAMMETER DESIGNED BY BUREAU OF STANDARDS--A portable, battery-powered 50-cps to 100-kc transistorized microammeter (with a 200-microamp full-scale) has been developed in Washington by the Bureau of Standards. . . . Current pickup is a miniature split-core transformer that can be clamped onto a wire; thus it is unnecessary to open the circuit to make a measurement. Output of a transformer using .014" silicon-steel laminations is fed into a preamp consisting of two transistors and a feedback network. . . . Gain is provided by two intermediate stages, each using a pair of transistors, with direct coupling from the first transistor to the next. A feedback network, from the emitter of the second transistor to the base input of the first, stabilizes the dc operating point for each pair and reduces the overall current gain of each stage to about 20. The ac feedback factor at low frequency for each stage is about 100; the low-frequency current gain is thus stabilized against transistor and battery aging, and the frequency range for constant response is extended beyond that available without feedback.

STANDARDIZATION OF TUBES SOUGHT--A drive to standardize tube types and halt the increasing number now being made was suggested recently by Donald W. Gunn of Sylvania during a talk before the Joint Electron Tube Engineering Council. . . . Pointing out that the variations of existing types, often dreamed up by design engineers, are hamstringing everyone--from manufacturers to Service Men--Gunn said that the galaxy of tube duplications represents endless loss of time and money. . . . He noted that the replacement market currently handles a total of 735 different types of receiving tubes and only 95 of this total represents 80 per cent of all of the sales. The remaining 640 slow-moving types are carried through all of the distribution system to the shop's shelf at considerable inconvenience and cost, Gunn added. . . . The sensible solution to this situation, it was emphasized, would be for tube manufacturers to adopt the best design and eliminate others, in instances where several tubes represent solutions to the same problem.

SEMICONDUCTORS DEVELOPED TO REPLACE RELAYS--A silicon-controlled rectifier which will replace relays and certain industrial power tubes has been designed by General Electric. . . . Applications for the new device were said to include electronic devices for the shop and home, such as weather-conditioning equipment and light control panels.

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New Trends In Power

ALMOST EVERYONE has seen large industrial or public utility power distribution transformers with oil-filled corrugated metal containers. In these units the heat of the windings is carried by the oil to the outer metal cases, the extended surface of which helps dissipate the heat into the surrounding air. This construction serves the two-fold purpose of permitting a more economical use of copper and iron in the transformer itself and (what is probably even more important) eliminates *hot spots* in the winding, thereby significantly increasing the reliability and probable life of the unit. Thermodynamic principles are involved here. In the cooling system of an automobile engine they are more commonly and forcefully encountered. Here, the localized heat in the cylinder walls is quickly conducted to a coolant (water) which is circulated by a pump to a very large extended surface (the radiator) in contact with air, into which the heat is dissipated. A fan forces air past the radiator to increase further the rate of heat transfer when the car is standing still or moving slowly. To do the job effectively, each step in the procedure must be done efficiently, and everyone is aware that clogging of the circulation by rust scale, failure of the water pump or radiator fan, clogging of the radiator openings by insects, or use of an inefficient coolant (alcohol instead of water on a hot day) result in overheating and possible damage to the engine itself. An engine could be designed that did not require this cooling equipment, but it would be larger, heavier, and much more expensive.

Heat Transfer

The basic principles involved (for either the engine or the transformer) for getting rid of the unwanted heat generated as a by-product of the useful function are:

(*1*) Transfer the heat from the source to the *sink* quickly by means of an efficient intermediate material.

(*2*) Get a large contact surface with the *sink*.

Until recently there were two major obstacles to the use of these principles in small power transformers.

(*1*) There was no really efficient intermediate material. Liquids (such as oil) are confined to such small spaces that the transfer of heat by convection would be virtually nil, and their conductivity alone is too poor to do the job. Solids (such as waxes and pitch) do not have sufficiently good conductivity and become soft at operating temperatures, thus presenting a potential leak or drip problem, which in addition to being messy, would result in overheating and failure of the transformer after enough of the compound has leaked out.

(*2*) No economical way had been found to provide sufficiently effective extended surfaces to dissipate heat into the air fast enough to justify their use.

Impregnation

Varnish impregnating serves several purposes:

(*1*) It acts as an adhesive to hold the windings together more securely.

(*2*) It sticks the laminations together and prevents *buzzing*.

(*3*) It offers some protection against humidity getting into the winding.

(*4*) It fills *some* of the air spaces between the winding wires with varnish.

The effectiveness of varnish in removing heat is relatively small. Varnish being thin, it runs out on removal of the unit from the tank, leaving small air pockets througout the winding. Thus the thermal conductivity within the winding is variable and in operation there will be *hot spots*. These hot spots become potential sources of voltage break-down and hence of transformer failure, because the electric insulating properties of varnish and tapes deteriorate rapidly at elevated temperatures.

Other Heat Problems

The transfer of heat from the windings themselves to the outer air is very inefficient because:

(*1*) There are also dead air spaces between the laminations and the outer winding layer.

(*2*) There are large air pockets between the outer winding layer and the transformer end shells, which (to draw a parallel) act like the storm windows on a house, impeding the rate at which heat is *lost* from the inside to the outside.

Since the losses in the transformer iron also generate heat, the innermost winding is in the unfortunate predicament of being entirely surrounded by materials which are in themselves sources of heat. These materials cannot efficiently draw heat from the innermost winding, unless their own heat is dissipated into the surroundings rapidly, which however is not the case. The situation is like trying to cool a hot brick which is wrapped in an electric heating pad and then put into a picnic jug.

This problem results in the innermost winding being the hottest

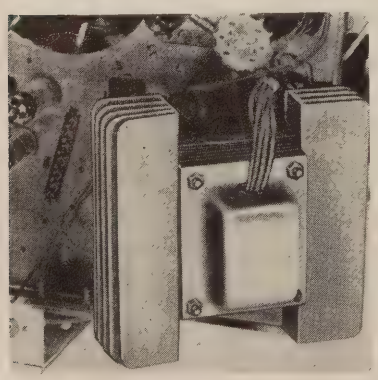

FIG. 1: VERTICAL CHASSIS mounting of recently-designed fin-cooled power transformer which simplifies chassis layout and removes heat problems.

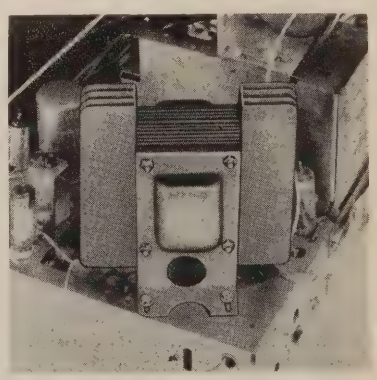

FIG. 2: ORIGINAL HORIZONTAL chassis mounting, where fin assembly had to be placed above the chassis. This mounting has been modified as illustrated in Fig. 3.

Transformers For TV Chassis

by J. C. SPINDLER

Engineering Department, Zenith Radio Corporation

portion of the transformer by a considerable margin, and therefore this winding becomes the governing factor in the thermodynamic design of the entire unit. Consequently, the transformer becomes larger, heavier, more expensive, and less reliable than would be the case if the means of dissipating the winding heat were more effective.

Filling Compounds

There are now available special filling compounds with improved thermal conductivity and good electrical insulating properties, which do not soften at operating temperatures. One of these is based on a liquid called Permafil[1], to which is added finely ground slate powder and a catalyst. At room temperature, the resulting mixture is very fluid. When the transformer is assembled, a sealing compound is inserted between the end shells and the lamination surfaces. The assembly is then baked at 290°F for one hour, which sets the sealer, thus leaving only the transformer lead hole as access to the inside of the transformer. The filled transformer is baked and cured at 275°F for five hours, at the end of which the entire assembly has become one solid rock-like unit.

The benefits obtained from the Permafil process are:

(*1*) The physical protection to the winding against shock and vibration are at a maximum. There is no possibility of winding shifting.

(*2*) There is no deterioration of the insulating properties of the compound at temperatures considerably in excess of those that would represent a serious problem with varnish. Since temperature limits specified by Underwriters' Laboratories are still based on varnish impregnated construction, the insulating ability of the compound should last indefinitely.

(*3*) A much heavier barrier against the penetration of humidity has been provided.

(*4*) There is now a continuous thermally conductive path throughout the entire assembly. This eliminates the *hot spots* and greatly increases the rate at which heat can be removed from the critical innermost winding.

(*5*) The greatly improved cooling of the inner winding permits a redesign of the transformer to use less iron and copper. Reduction in the copper wire size increases the copper losses, which however are now more rapidly dissipated. Since in transformer design the iron is kept at a constant flux density, the total iron loss is directly proportional to the weight of iron, and hence less pounds of iron result in less total watts of iron loss, thereby offsetting a part of the increased copper loss.

Having provided the means of getting heat more quickly from the inside to the outside of the transformer, it now becomes necessary to transfer the heat more efficiently to the surrounding air. To do this both effectively and economically the following factors must be considered:

(*1*) The transformer iron is in closest thermal contact with the inner surface of the innermost winding.

(*2*) While the transformer iron is a source of heat itself, it is also an excellent thermal conductor.

(*3*) The transformer iron is in close thermal contact with about 70% of the outer and inner surfaces of the complete winding assembly.

(*4*) The transformer iron outer surface is flat and represents over 50% of the entire outer surface of the transformer.

In the structure finally evolved by engineering nested *U*-shaped pieces of .025″ aluminum were clamped to the longer sides created by the lamination edges by means of two long studs. Nested *U* pieces have been found to be not only more economical, but provide additional strength to the final assembly.

This structure was found to provide the following advantages:

(*1*) The innermost winding still being the hottest, the means chosen are as directly effective on it as possible.

(*2*) Extension of the outer surface in this manner does not increase the internal volume of the transformer body, and therefore the amount of Permafil required is not increased. Additional Permafil would not only be costly and increase weight, but by being in series with the thermal circuit would actually slow down the overall rate of heat transfer.

(*3*) Extension of the outer surface with this construction provides the maximum increased surface in contact with the air and the minimum of material and complexity of parts.

(*4*) The increased surfaces are vertical and therefore take full advantage of the natural convection (chimney effect) set up when air is heated.

(*5*) Maximum access is provided for entry of cool air at the bottom of the extended surface and easy exit is provided for the warm air at the top.

On a vertical chassis the transformer is mounted by means of a

(*Continued on page* 41)

[1] *Made by G. E.*

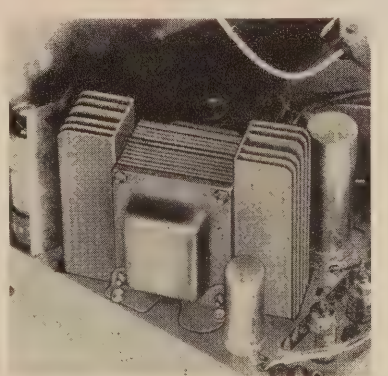

FIG. 3: PRESENT MOUNTING on a horizontal chassis where short brackets are used and the fins protrude through holes in the chassis to take advantage of the cooler air available from openings in the cabinet bottom.

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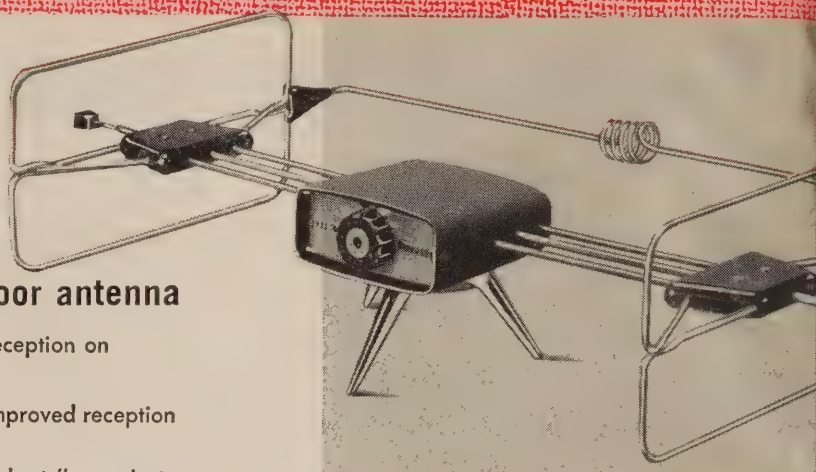

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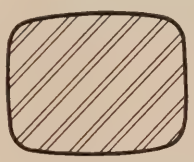
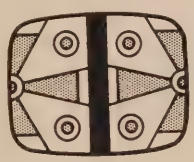
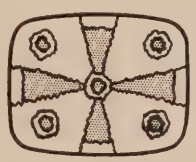
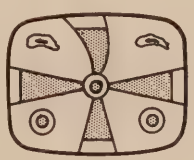
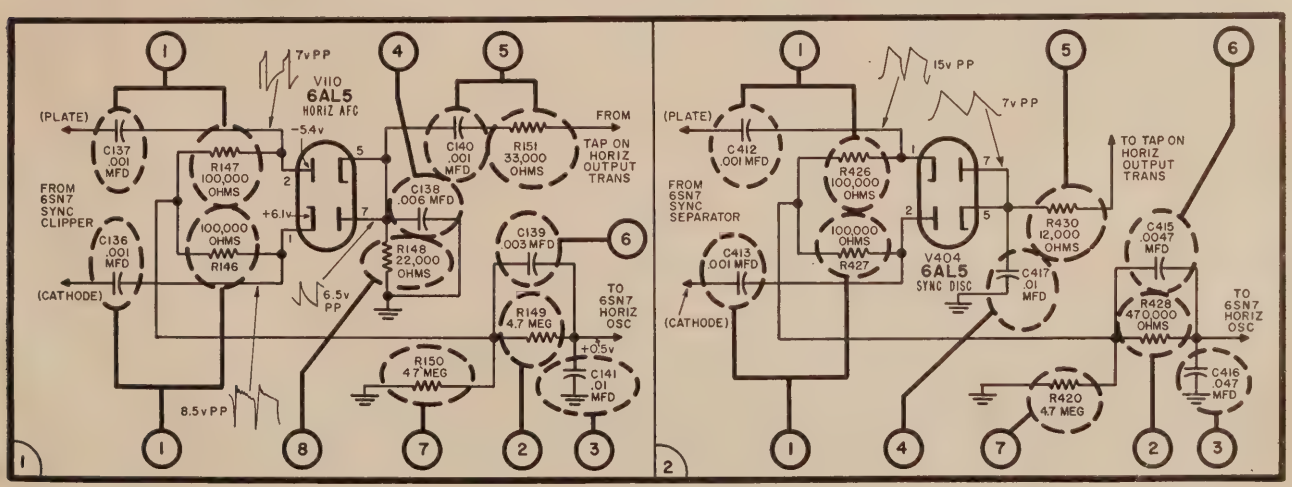
Troubleshooting Dual-Diode Horizontal AFC Circuits

by JESSE DINES

Trouble	Picture Indication	Cause	Remedy
Loss of horizontal sync (A)		The following components may have to be replaced: C_{136} or C_{137} (.001 mfd), R_{146} or R_{147} (100,000 ohms) (faulty); R_{149} (4.7 megohms) open; C_{141} (.01 mfd) leaky; C_{138} (.006 mfd) shorted; R_{151} (33,000 ohms) or C_{140} (.001 mfd) open; R_{150} (4.7 megohms) faulty. ***—See circles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 in Fig. 1.*** The following components may also be defective: C_{142} or C_{143} (.001 mfd), R_{426} or R_{427} (100,000 ohms), R_{428} (470,000 ohms), C_{146} (.047 mfd), C_{147} (.01 mfd), R_{430} (12,000 ohms), and R_{420} (4.7 megohms). ***—See circles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 in Fig. 2.***	Replace or repair defective component.
Vertical blanking bar; split picture. (B)		C_{138} (.006 mfd) may be leaky, or R_{151} (33,000 ohms) increases in value. ***—See circles 4 and 5 in Fig. 2.*** C_{147} (.01 mfd) and R_{430} (12,000 ohms) should also be checked for possible defects. ***—See circles 4 and 5 in Fig. 2.***	Replace or repair defective component.
Piecrust or geartooth pattern. (C)		The following components may be faulty: R_{149} (4.7 megohms), C_{141} (.01 mfd), C_{139} (.003 mfd) or R_{150} (4.7 megohms). The .003-mfd capacitor may be open.***—See circles 2, 3, 6 and 7 in Fig. 1.*** Also check R_{428} (.0047 mfd), C_{416} (.047 mfd), C_{415} (.0047 mfd) and R_{420} (4.7 megohms). ***—See circles 2, 3, 6 and 7 in Fig. 2.***	Replace or repair defective component.
Picture hook. (D)		The following components may change in value: C_{138} (.006 mfd), C_{139} (.003 mfd), C_{140} (.001 mfd), C_{141} (.01 mfd), R_{148} (22,000 ohms), R_{149} and R_{150} (4.7 megohms), and R_{151} (33,000 ohms). ***—See circles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in Fig. 1.*** Also check C_{415} (.0047 mfd), C_{416} (.047 mfd), C_{417} (.01 mfd), R_{426} and R_{428} (470,000 ohms), and R_{430} (12,000 ohms). ***—See circles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 in Fig. 2.***	Replace or repair defective component.



FIGS. 1-2: The Fig. 1 diagram is the horizontal-sync circuit used in the Crosley 393-394. Fig. 2 is the horizontal-sync circuit used in the Admiral 22E2 chassis.

FIG. 1: CONSOLE stereo tape player.

Monaural Tape Recorder-

Dual-Purpose Unit Features 2-Speed Operation

THE RAPIDLY increasing use of tape equipment in the home is being reflected by the steady rise in the production of prerecorded tapes, not only for monaural, but stereophonic reproduction. For stereo (¼" in-line), as well as standard (half or full-track) play, tape machines[1] of the type illustrated in Fig. 1 have been developed.

Although the stereotape players were designed for use in conjunction with companion speaker units for stereophonic sound reproduction, the stereotape players can be used alone for monaural reproduction.

The tape transport mechanism in these models has four pushbuttons and a *stop* bar for controlling tape motion, and two pair of pushbuttons for selection of stereophonic or monaural playback amplification and for modification of recording characteristic. Knob-type controls are used to select operating speed, loudness, tone and type of external speaker system.

An in-line stereo record/playback head and a separate erase head are used. To thread, the tape is placed in a slot and secured to the takeup reel. A tape holdout lever holds the tape away from the heads during fast-forward and rewind; this prevents irritating squeaks and squawks when rewinding.

Other features of the tape transport mechanism are: Heavy balanced flywheel, flat linen take-up belt, shock-absorbent mounting and *ac* erase. The recording level can be set without the tape being in motion.

The tape-amplifier chassis[2] and a separate power-supply chassis[3] are both attached to the tape transport mechanism to make a single unit.

The amplifier has four dual amplifier tubes and two power output tubes: 12AX7 (two-stage preamp—left channel); 12AX7 (two-stage preamp—right channel); 12AX7 (two-channel *af* ampl—playback or *af* ampl and neon ampl—record); 12AU7 (two-stage recording ampl); 6AQ5 (left-channel output—playback or 60-kc oscillator—record), and a 6AQ5 (right channel output—playback or neon amplifier—record).

The power unit has a 5Y3GT rectifier for *B* supply and a selenium rectifier for *dc* supply to the heaters of the preamp tubes.

Power output for each channel is 3 watts (undistorted) and 4.5 watts maximum.

Three speakers are used. In the console are one 8" and two 3½" *pm* units; the portable has one 6½" and two 3½" *pm* speakers.

Circuit Description

The amplifier has been designed with two channels, each channel having four stages of playback amplification. Switching is provided in the third stage to permit full power output with either stereophonic or conventional tapes.

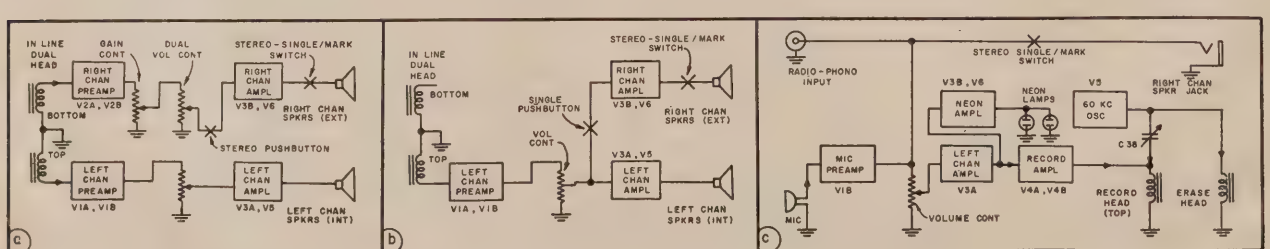
The type of playback operation to be used can be selected by two pushbuttons. When the buttons are in the *stereo* position, each channel is fed through separate preamps from the in-line stereo playback head. With the *single* pushbutton depressed, the input circuits of the 12AX7 left and right audio-amp channels (V_{3A} and V_{3B}) are paralleled and fed from the output of the 12AX7 left channel preamp (V_{1B}).

A dual loudness and a dual tone control are used to provide equal playback amplification and tone in both channels. An adjustable gain control in the right-channel amplifier permits equalization of the gain of the two channels.

Monaural recordings can be made from a microphone or from another source or mixed if the input to the *radio-phono* jack is from a high-impedance source.

On *record* operation one stage (V_{1B}) of microphone preamplification

FIGS. 3, 4 and 5: BLOCK DIAGRAMS of stereo playback and monaural record-playback systems used in RCA STR-6/8 tape machines.



by SAM F. PUSEY, Service Engineer, RCA Service Co., Inc.

Stereotape Player

and 3-Speaker System

is used ahead of the *radio-phono* input (top of volume control). Three subsequent stages (12AX7 and 12AU7; V_{3A}, V_{4A} and V_{4B}) of audio amplification are used for recording. Inverse feedback is provided between the plate of V_{4B} and the cathode of V_{4A}.

A 6AQ5 (V_5) serves two functions: On *playback* it is the left-channel output and on *record* it is a 60-kc oscillator. A switch (S_3 front) selects the input (audio or oscillator) to the grid of V_5; the rear of this switch selects the load (output transformer or oscillator coil) connected to the plate of V_5. In *record* operation the cathode of V_5 is connected directly to ground, and self-bias is provided by a 47,000-ohm resistor in the grid/osc coil circuit. The oscillator output is used for both erase and bias. The bias signal is mixed with the audio signal at the output of V_{4B} and then applied to the upper record/playback head through the rear of another switch (S_1). The oscillator output is applied directly to the erase head.

Recording level is indicated by the flashing of two neon indicator lamps. The signal to the indicator lamps is supplied from the plate circuit of a 6AQ5; V_6. This signal is audio only and not a mixture of audio and bias.

Tape motion is controlled by three pushbuttons and a *stop* bar. A fourth pushbutton (*monitor*) of this group actuates the record-playback switch (S_1 and S_3) only. When the *monitor* pushbutton is depressed, the record-

(*Continued on page* 40)

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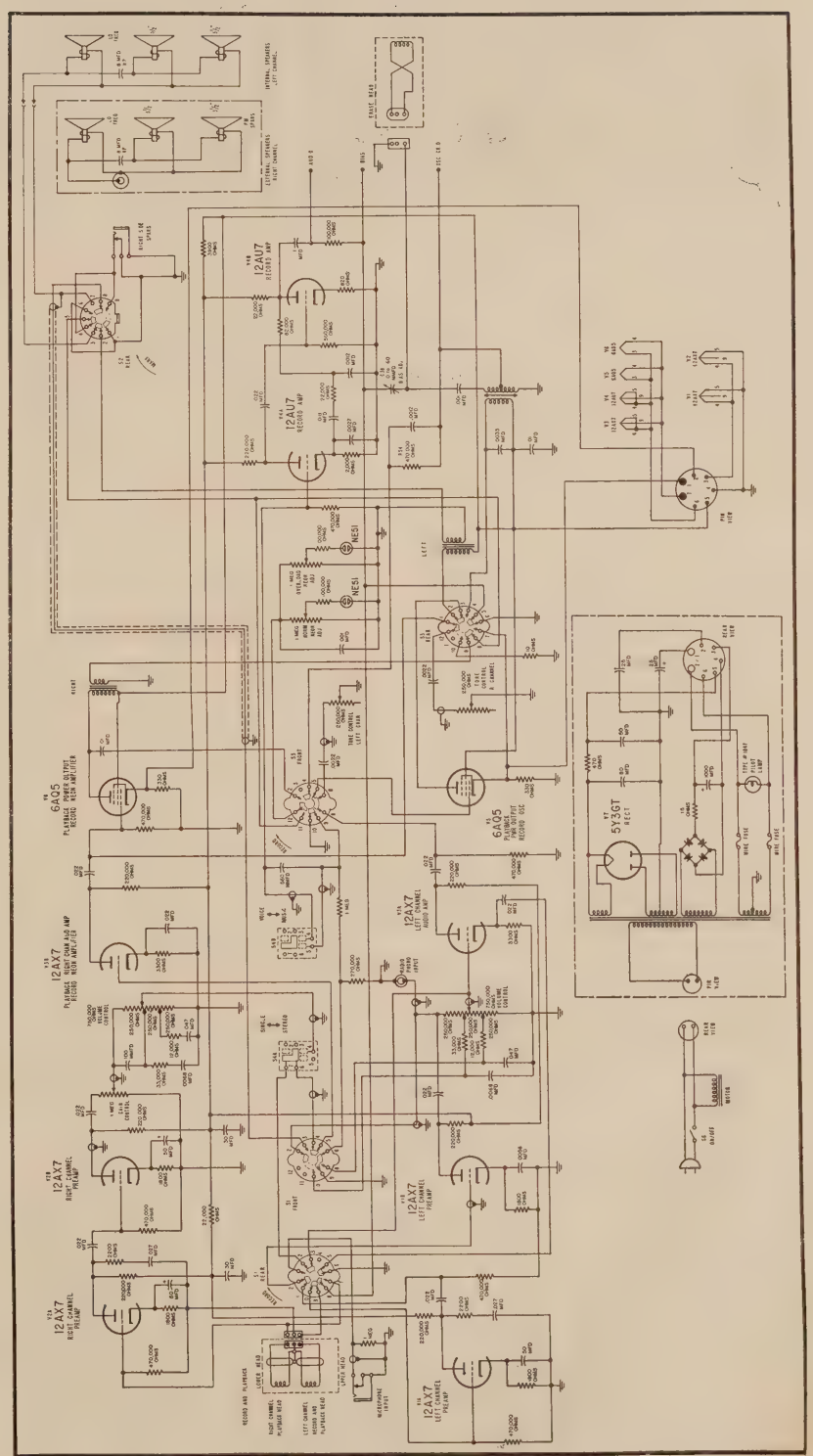
[1]*RCA STR-6 and STR-8.*
[2]*RS-166.* [3]*RS-167.*



(Right)

FIG. 6: COMPLETE CIRCUIT of RCA STR-6/8 stereo-monaural tape player-recorder.

Alignment and Test Procedures for Oscillator Coils in Tape Recorders[1] . . . Troubleshooting Tape Equipment‡ . . . Tools Required for Tape Repairs‡

In aligning oscillator coils in Crescent, Silvertone and Columbia tape recorders one must first determine if the oscillator is operating at its assigned frequency of 52.5 kc. This can be determined by employing a coil[2] preset to 52.5 kc.

The coil can be placed in any convenient sized can. The tap on the primary should be grounded to the coil can. A clip of some kind should be fastened to the outside of the can to permit connection to chassis of the unit under test. The other three leads should be unshielded and not over one-foot long.

Since the coil is set at the factory in open air, placing it in a can may affect its resonant point. As a result, it may be necessary to reset the coil by peaking against a known value coil as in a new tape recorder in good operating condition.

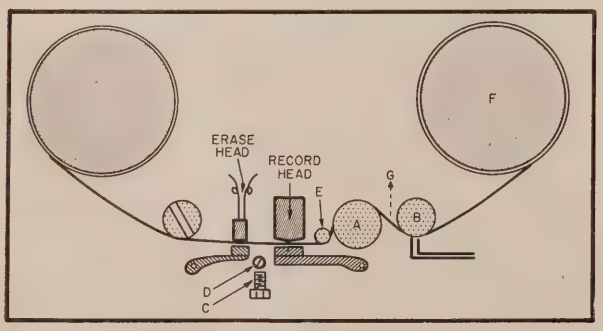
The frequency check should be made by clipping the coil case to the chassis of the unit under test. Blue lead should go to the output of oscillator coil; this is the orange lead running from oscillator coil to erase head. Red and black leads should go to any *vtvm* set on 50-*v ac* scale.

The powdered iron slug in the oscillator coil of the unit under test is then rotated to the point where maximum voltage reading is obtained on the *vtvm*. At this point a definite dipping of the meter should be noticed if the slug is turned in either direction.

A similar procedure can be followed for setting the 52.5-kc trap; all units do not contain a trap. Basically the same hookup is used, with the blue lead in this case connecting to the 12AX7 side of the trap. The trap is tuned by dipping meter to minimum rather than maximum voltage. (All readings should be taken in record position on a *vtvm*.)

After the frequency of the coil has been set, it should be determined if the erase and bias voltage are correct. On units using a 6V6 as oscillator, the erase voltage at 52.5 kc should be approximately 70 *v*, with bias about 22 *v*. Readings are taken at the head socket in record position, with no signal input, using a *vtvm*.

On many units the erase voltage will run considerably higher. This is a normal condition, since an increase in erase voltage is not detrimental, but a decrease (below 65 *v*) will cause incomplete erase and distortion. On units containing a 12AU7 as the oscillator, the erase voltage reading should be 100 *v* minimum, and bias voltage 50 *v* minimum.



TAPE COMPONENTS in Ampro equipment which require adjustments to cure pinch roller squeek: A—pinch roller, B—guide, C—set screw, D—adjusting cam screw, E—capstan, and F—takeup reel. G represents direction tape should be pushed.

Remedies for Other Tape Problems

If the erase voltage is proper, but bias voltage is not, value of capacitor feeding the erase voltage to the record head must be checked; also one should check for open or shorted record head.

For low erase voltage the 6V6 or 12AU7 oscillator should be checked; also values of feedback network consisting of resistor to ground and capacitor to grid of 6V6 or 12AU7. Erase head may be partially shorted; erase head should measure about 10 ohms.

One should also make a resistance check of the oscillator coil. The oscillator coil can be checked in the circuit if the head is removed from socket, and unit is in record position. Readings on units containing a 6V6 as oscillator should be as follows: Across full primary, 14 ohms; lesser part of primary, approximately 3 ohms; and greater part, approximately 11 ohms. Secondary should measure approximately 12 ohms. Readings on units containing a 12AU7 as oscillator should be approximately 16 ohms across full winding; 3.5 ohms across lesser part, and 12.5 ohms across greater part of winding. On units using a 6V6 as an oscillator, capacitor across primary of output transformer should be checked. And on units using a 12AU7 as an oscillator, capacitor

‡*Based on service notes for* ***Ampro*** *tape recorders.*

coupling plate of 12AU7 to erase circuit should be checked.

If there is no erase voltage, one should check coil windings for continuity; erase head for shorts; changeover switch to see if movement is sufficient to allow switch to go fully into record position; 6V6 or 12AU7; open capacitor, shorted resistor, or open leads in feedback network to grid of 6V6 or 12AU7. On units using a 6V6 as an oscillator, capacitor across primary of output transformer should be tested, and on units using a 12AU7 as an oscillator, capacitor coupling plate of 12AU7 to erase circuit should be checked.

Pinch Roller Squeek Cures‡

PINCH ROLLER SQUEEK in a tape recorder is a small constant noise, variously described as *monkey chatter, hiss, squeal* or *creaking.*

To diagnose this trouble one can apply a pencil or other small smooth object, pressing back on tape between the pinch roller and guide if the noise disappears it is pinch roller squeek. The trouble is caused by too much tension on the tape between the pinch roller and capstan.

To correct this condition, the control panel should be removed, tape put on machine, set screw loosened and *play* key depressed. With tape recorder running, adjusting cam screw should be turned (either way; it controls an eccentric) slowly until tension on tape between capstan and pinch roller is decreased sufficiently to eliminate noise.

One should test for sufficient tension by holding takeup reel from turning. Tape should continue to move smoothly between capstan and pinch roller.

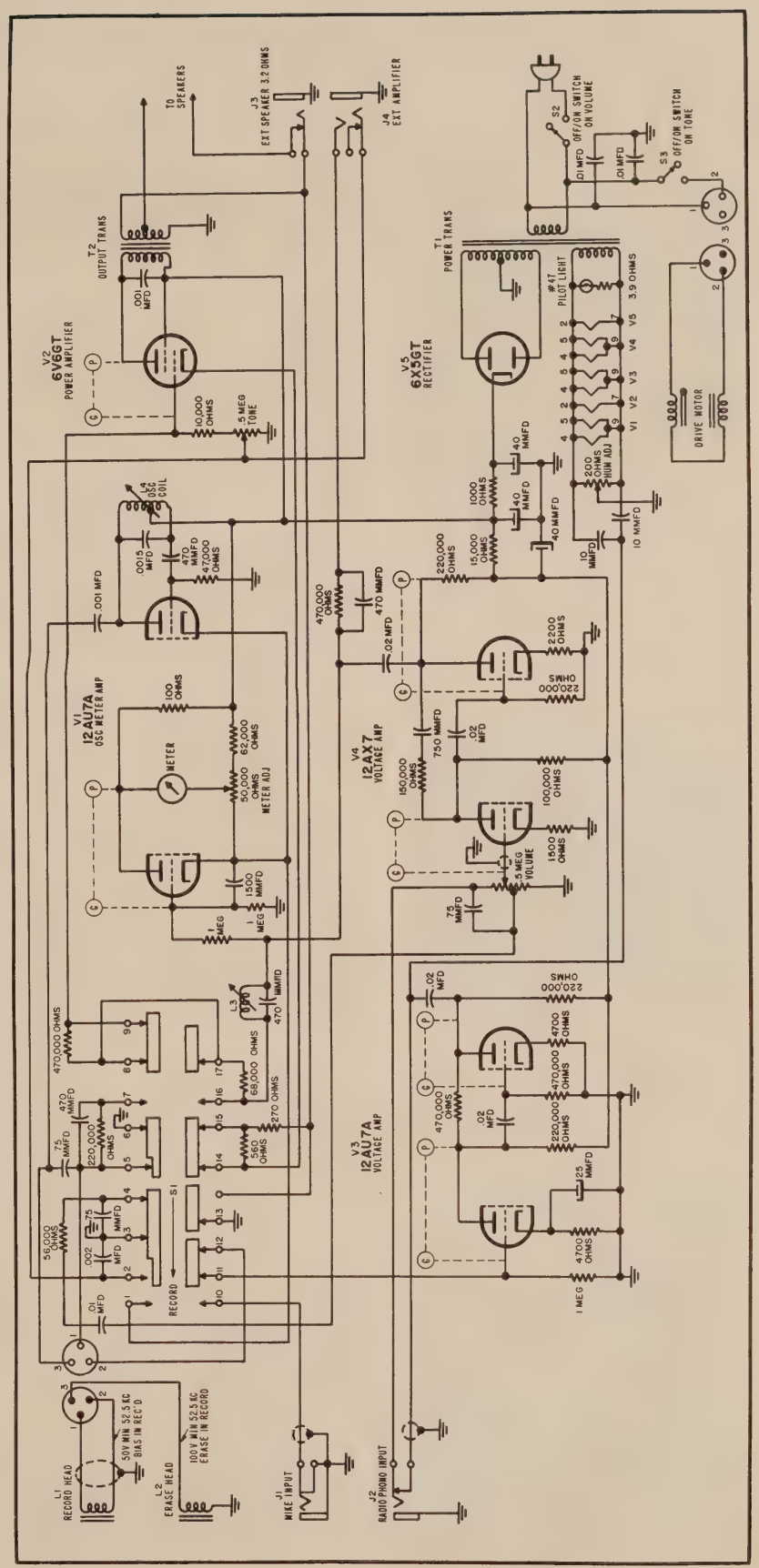
Tools required are a small Philips head screwdriver, a standard blade type screwdriver, a jeweler's screwdriver and a 5/16 spintite.

Removing Takeup Reel Scrape‡

TAKEUP REEL SCRAPE is a small intermittent scraping, not unlike the sound made by sandpaper on wood, sometimes higher pitched.

Two methods can be used to determine the source of this trouble. In the first approach, with tape running, supply and takeup reels should be checked for evenness and freedom

(*Continued on page* 44)

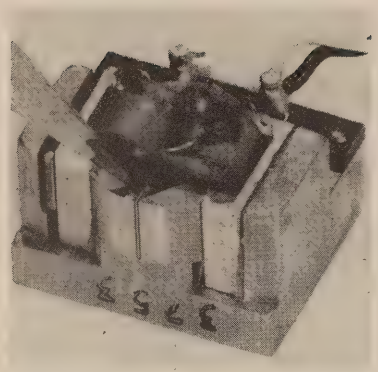


SCHEMATIC of amplifier used in Crescent tape recorder models TR-773, 773A, 773B, 774, 774A and B.

[1] *Crescent, Silvertone and Columbia tape recorders.*

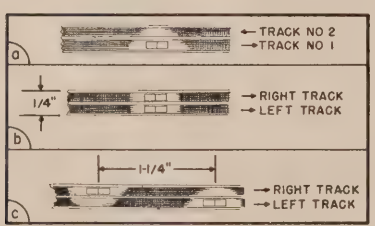
[2] *Crescent Products part No.* 700080.

Glossary of Monaural-Stereo



ERASE HEAD which removes recorded sound from the tape automatically just before the tape reaches the record head.

PHOTOMICROGRAPH showing lineup of iron-oxide particles in magnetic field. This is an actual section of magnetic recording tape with a signal on it made visible by a special process.



STEREOPHONIC SOUND showing the difference in head arrangement of (a) dual track monaural recording, (b) stereo or binaural recording (in-line heads), (c) stereo or binaural recording (staggered heads).

TAPE RECORDING has given new meaning to many words in the English language. Numerous terms long used in the field of sound have become important to the tape recorder user.

Here are definitions of some of the most common tape recording terms.

A Wind: Magnetic tape wound on the reel with the dull, oxide-coated side of the tape toward the inside; the wind almost universally used today. Recorder design determines whether *A* or *B* wind tape is required.

Bias: A high-frequency alternating current fed into the recording circuit to eliminate distortion.

Binaural Recorder: A tape recorder which employs two separate recording channels or systems, each with its own microphone, amplifier, recording and playback heads and earphones. Recordings using both systems are made simultaneously on a single magnetic tape on two parallel tracks. Use of headphones for listening is necessary for true binaural effect.

Capstan: The spindle or shaft—often the motor shaft itself—which rotates against the tape, pulling it along at a constant speed on recording and playback.

Microphones and Networks

Ceramic Microphone: Piezoelectric type microphone supplied with many tape recorders which employs a ceramic element to generate voltages. Extremely rugged, it requires more gain than does a crystal microphone.

Crossover Network: Filter circuits for a multiple loudspeaker system which separates highs and lows and feeds each to the particular speaker designed to handle them.

**Based on data prepared by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co.*

Crystal Microphone: Piezoelectric type microphone supplied with many tape recorders which employs a natural crystal—usually Rochelle salt—as its element. As the diaphragm moves, it causes the crystal to generate electrical voltages. Should be handled with care, however, and never exposed to heat. Provides best quality of all inexpensive microphones.

Dual-Track Recorder: Usually a tape recorder with a recording head which covers half of the tape width, making it possible to record one track on the tape, then turn the reels over and record a second track in the opposite direction. Sometimes called a half-track recorder.

Dynamic Microphone: Electromagnetic type microphone which employs a moving coil in a magnetic field to produce varying voltages.

Electromagnetic Type Microphone: Microphone using an electromagnet to produce varying voltages; includes ribbon or *velocity* microphones, dynamic or *moving coil* type, and reluctance, or *moving vane* type.

Equalization: Either boosting or decreasing the intensity of the low, middle or high tones of a recording during recording or playback or both. This compensation serves to correct any deficiencies in the recording system and to increase the signal-to-noise ratio.

Gap: The tiny distance between the poles of the recording head, measured in mils. The head gap of most home recorders may range from 1 mil down to ¼ mil. The smaller the gap, the higher the frequency range of the tape recorder.

Heads—Alignment

Head Alignment: Positioning of the record-playback head on a tape recorder so that its gap is exactly perpendicular to the path of travel of the tape. Head misalignment would cause loss of high frequencies upon playback. Special head alignment testing tapes are available.

***Such as Scotch timing tape 43P.*

Tape Recording-Playback Terms

Head Demagnetizer: Device to eliminate any magnetism built up and retained in a recording head. Some tape recorders feature automatic head demagnetization.

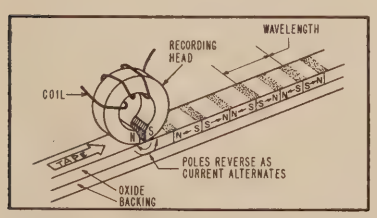
In-Line Heads: Arrangement of stereophonic heads on a tape recorder so that gaps are directly in line. One head is mounted directly above the other; also called *stacked* heads.

Leader-Timing Tapes

Leader and Timing Tape: Tough, nonmagnetic tape which can be spliced to either end of a tape to prevent damage or breaking off of the magnetic tape ends and possible loss of part of the recorded material. White in color, it usually features a one-inch plaid marker every 7½ inches.** Used as timing tape, it can be spliced between musical selections on a tape providing a pause of a given number of seconds, depending on the tape speed.

Monaural Recorder: Standard type tape recorder which uses a single- channel system consisting of one microphone, amplifier and recording head (as opposed to a binaural or stereophonic recorder).

Motor Board: Also called tape transport mechanism. The platform, or assembly, of a tape recorder on which the motor (or motors), the reels, the heads and the controls are mounted. It includes those parts of the recorder other than the amplifier, preamplifier, loudspeaker and case.



RECORDING HEAD (ring-shaped electromagnet) which magnetizes oxide coating of tape in series of magnetic fields corresponding to the frequency of the sound being recorded.

NARTB Curve: Standard playback equalization curve set by National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters.

Oxide: Microscopically small particles of ferric oxide dispersed in a liquid binder and coated on a tape backing. Red oxide used on some magnetic tape[1] is most common; high-output magnetic tapes[2] employ a dark green oxide. These oxides are magnetically hard; that is, once magnetized, they remain magnetized permanently, unless they are demagnetized by exposure to a strong magnetic field.

Tape and Equipment Definitions

Polyester Backing: Plastic film backing for magnetic tape used for special purposes where strength and resistance to humidity change are important.

Pressure Pads: Felt pads mounted on spring-brass arms which hold the magnetic tape in close contact with the heads on some machines.

Pressure Roller: Also called *capstan idler* or *puck*. A rubber-tired roller which holds the magnetic tape tight against the capstan by means of spring pressure to insure constant tape speed and prevent slippage.

Print Through: Transfer of the magnetic field from layer to layer of tape on the reel.

Performance Terms

Signal-to-Noise Ratio: The ratio between the loudest, undistorted tone recorded and reproduced by a recorder and the noise induced by the recording system itself. Normally measured in *db*'s.

---

[1]*Such as Scotch* 111.

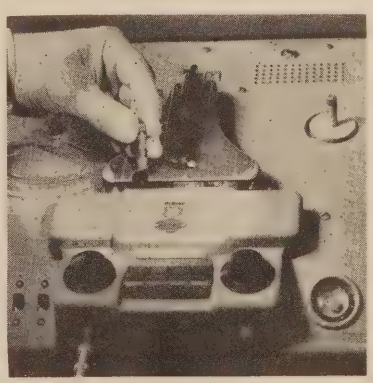
[2]*Such as Scotch* 120.

Single-Track Recorder: A tape recorder which records only one track on the tape. Usually a full-track recording head is used which covers the full width of the ¼-inch tape although some machines use a narrower, half-track recording head which records a single track down the middle of the tape. Output of a full-track recording is theoretically double that of a half-track recording, although actually the output is only slightly greater because of improved half-track head design.

Stacked Heads: Arrangement of recording heads used for stereophonic sound where the two heads are located directly in line, one above the other.

Staggered Heads: Arrangement of recording heads used for stereophonic sound where the heads are located 1 7/32" apart. Stero tapes recorded using staggered heads cannot be played on recorders using stacked heads, or vice versa.

Tape Speed: Speed at which tape moves past the recording head. Standard tape speeds for home use are 3¾ and 7½ ips. Faster speeds are 15 and 30 ips. Slower speeds sometimes used are 1⅞ and 15/16 ips. Faster speed makes possible improved high-frequency response, while slower speed means greater tape economy. If a tape is recorded at 3¾ ips, then played back at 7½ ips, all sound will be raised one octave in pitch. Cutting the speed in half lowers a tone one octave.



CAPSTAN—the spindle or shaft (often the motor shaft itself) which rotates against the tape, pulling it along at a constant speed on recording and playback. Interchangeable capstan shown here is used to alter the speed of the recorder.

Troubleshooting AM-FM Tuners‡ . . . TV Tuner Detent Spring Lubrication . . . Fuse-Resistor Replacements . . . Ringing Cures

With the advent of high-fidelity, the AM-FM tuner has found a permanent place for itself, in view of the performance features of FM — extended audio range and greater interference rejection characteristics required for high-fidelity sound.

In FM operation, tuners (Fig. 1) use the following stages; an *rf* amplifier, mixer, local oscillator, two *if* amplifiers, a ratio detector, tuning-eye indicator and audio amplifier.

A 300 ohm, built-in antenna is coupled to the grid of the pentode *rf* amplifier through an impedance-matching network. This network matches the antenna impedance to the input impedance of the tube, at the FM frequencies, to permit maximum transfer of energy. Capacitor C_2 and resistor R_1 provide the necessary grid bias. The resistor-capacitor networks in the screen and plate circuits of the 6BJ6 *rf* amplifier are for decoupling; to prevent unwanted regenerative coupling between the *rf* and *if*-amplifier stages of the tuner.

One half of a 12AT7 dual-triode tube is employed as a local oscillator and the other half as a mixer. Permeability tuning is used to vary the oscillator frequency and tune the *rf* coupling transformer between the *rf* amplifier and mixer stages; C_5 and R_4 develop the grid-leak bias for the oscillator tube. Capacitor C_6 is a negative-coefficient type and compensates for oscillator drift during warmup time.

The oscillator signal, taken from the grid of the oscillator tube, is fed to the grid of the mixer through a capacitor, C_8. The *rf* signal is coupled from the secondary of the coupling transformer to the mixer grid through capacitor C_9. The gain of the mixer stage is controlled by the *avc* control voltage applied to the grid of the mixer tube through R_8.

Mixer IF Output Coupling

The mixer *if* output is coupled to the first *if* amplifier by transformer T_1. Two stages of *if* amplification are used to provide increased receiver selectivity and sensitivity. The second *if* amplifier stage is not operated as a limiter because the ratio detector does its own limiting. C_{18} prevents the *avc* control voltage from being shorted to ground and couples the *if* signal from the transformer to the *if* amplifier grid. R_8 and R_{11} drop the *avc* voltage to the *if* amplifier grids. Cathode bias for the first and second *if* stages is provided by a pair of resistors, R_9 and R_{15}. Possible *if* regeneration is prevented by not bypassing these resistors, thus creating degeneration for both stages.

An unbalanced ratio detector is used to develop the audio signal. Limiting is accomplished by the stabilizing voltage developed across R_{19}-C_{20}; this voltage compensates for changes in the carrier amplitude. This voltage is also used to drive a tuning indicator, and serves as the *avc* control voltage for the mixer, first and second *if* amplifier stages. R_{17}-C_{23} form a load for the detector diodes. The audio voltage appearing across capacitor C_{23} is coupled to the audio amplifier through a deemphasis network.

An *if* amplifier is common to both AM and FM operation. Separate *if* transformers, one for AM and the other for FM, are connected in series. Because the AM coils operate at 455 kc and the FM coils at 10.7 mc, the AM coils have many more turns and a higher inductance than the FM coils. As a result, when operating on AM, the AM signal at 455 kc has little impedance from the small FM coil; the signal acts as though the FM coil is shorted out. When operating on FM, the capacitor across the AM coils offers virtually no impedance to the FM signal at 10.7 mc, and thus shorts out the AM coils. The *if* transformers, therefore, do not affect each other and may be connected together.

Troubleshooting the Tuner

If the AM section is found to be in good operation, FM can be checked by first feeding an AM modulated signal at 10.7 mc to the last *if* amplifier grid. The generator should be adjusted for full output and the frequency control wobbled to each side of 10.7 mc. If the *if* amplifier and ratio detector are operating properly, a modulation note will be heard. As the frequency control is rotated away from 10.7 mc the note will be fairly loud. As 10.7 mc is approached and reached, the note will dip sharply in loudness. As the frequency control is moved off frequency to the other side, the note will rise to its previous loudness. This procedure should be performed slowly to hear the sharp dip in loudness.

This procedure should be repeated, loosely coupling the signal to the grid of the first *if* amplifier. Absence of the note indicates that this stage is not functioning. If this stage is operating properly, you should move to the mixer grid and repeat this procedure.

To check the FM oscillator, a modulated signal should be fed, at an *rf* frequency, to the mixer grid to observe mixing action. If your generator does not reach these frequencies but does reach, say, 15 mc, the harmonics of the generator signal can be used. For example, the 11th, 12th and 13th harmonics of 8 mc are 88, 96 and 104 mc, respectively, and can be used to check oscillator operation, since these frequencies are within the FM band. The *rf* generator should be tuned to 8 mc and the output connected to the mixer grid. The tuning dial should then be turned to 88, 96

‡*Based on a report prepared by* ***Sol Libes****, editor of the* ***Westinghouse Tech-Lit News.***

and 104 mc. If the oscillator is working, the modulation note will be heard at each of these positions, when the generator is wobbled. If the note is not heard, a defective oscillator may be the cause.

A negative *dc* voltage measured with a *vtvm* at the oscillator grid is another indication that the oscillator is not operating.

The *rf* amplifier can be checked in the same manner as the oscillator, except that the 8-mc signal must be fed to the grid of the *rf* amplifier. This same procedure can be used to check the antenna.

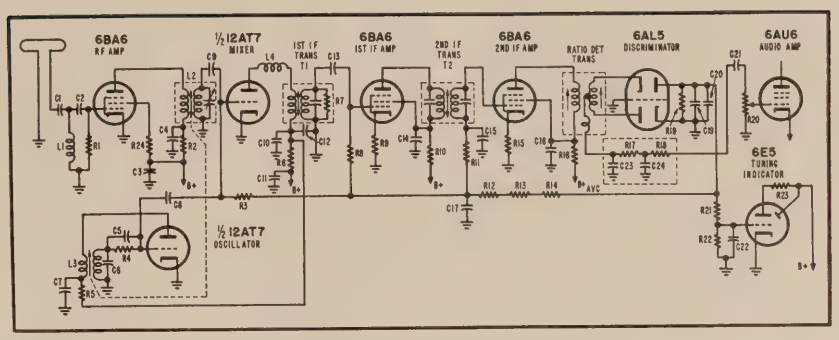


FIG. 1: CIRCUIT of FM section of AM-FM tuner used in Westinghouse chassis.

Solving Ringing Problems

INDICATIONS of ringing are either a ripple or wave in the scanning lines on the left side of the picture or white vertical lines in the same location, or both. The location of this trouble is usually in the horizontal winding of the deflection yoke.

The high pulse of voltage appearing in the horizontal-output circuit during horizontal retrace, tends to produce a shock-excited oscillation in the circuit. As a result of the high harmonic content of the pulse, a few cycles of damped oscillation can be produced at a harmonic frequency, if the circuit components resonate at that frequency. This effect sometimes occurs when the horizontal winding of the deflection yoke or, in some instances, the linearity coil, resonates with the distributed capacity at the fourth harmonic (roughly 70 kc) of the pulse frequency. When this ringing occurs, the linearity at the left of the raster is effected.

Ringing Replacement Parts

To minimize ringing effects, a 51 or 43-mmfd capacitor should be connected in parallel with one-half of the horizontal winding of the deflection yoke. The capacitor serves to make the reactances of the two sections of the horizontal winding equal and opposite at the ringing frequency, so that the ringing effect is cancelled. If ringing occurs, it may be due to an open capacitor which was the cause of this trouble, or the capacitor may be of the wrong value for the particular yoke. If so, different values of capacitance should be tried. Suggested trial values are 33, 43, 47, 51, 56 or 68 mmfd.

In some cases it may be necessary to replace the deflection yoke to cure ringing symptoms. This represents a last resort, however, and the measures previously mentioned should be tried first.

Tuner Detent Spring Lubrication

THE DETENT SPRING life in Magnavox 700584 and 700587 tuners can be extended by applying *lubriplate* 105 at the point of contact between the detent gear and spring. This lubricant should be applied generously.

Fuse-Resistor and Ballast Replacements‡

ALTHOUGH THERE are hundreds of thousands of fuse-resistors and line-voltage ballasts in radio-TV sets, some misunderstanding as to their purpose still exists.

Occasionally fuse - resistors, are claimed to fail as replacements. In checking returned units, it has been found that they have functioned as originally intended; that is, burned out when overloaded. The difficulty has been found to lie in the individual application.

The fuse-resistor serves a dual purpose in its application:

(*1*) Manufacturers of certain types of rectifiers specify that a dropping resistor of from 5 to 15 ohms be used in series with their rectifiers to absorb peak surges that may be present in the line-voltage.

(*2*) Underwriters recommend that these circuits be fused to eliminate the possibility of fire occuring in the set when surges occur at a higher level than the resistor will reduce to safe value.

The fuse - resistor is designed to function for both of these conditions. Causes for failure or blowing may be attributed to two commonly-known factors:

(*1*) The line-voltage source, having fluctuations reaching a high peak value and remaining there long enough to cause the fuse-resistor to burn out. Or . . .

(*2*) Through aging of parts in the set, causing an increase in the load. Such increase will increase the current through the fuse-resistor. If this current reaches or exceeds the rating of the fuse-resistor for over the time limit rating, it will burn out.

A simple remedy for the first condition is the use of external dropping resistors or a regulator. Line-voltage regulators will perform this function satisfactorily and are available in several sizes for various load wattages. For the second condition, they will function as a temporary remedy; but eventually, parts causing added load will need to be replaced while the regulator can still be used against future conditions of this nature.

It must be remembered that the fuse-resistor is an expendable item designed to burn out in protecting expensive components of a set. Amperage in excess of normal operating current is responsible for fuse burnouts. Fuse after fuse could be installed and each one would perform as expected, namely, burn out. Using a higher rating fuse-resistor would be

(*Continued on page* 41)

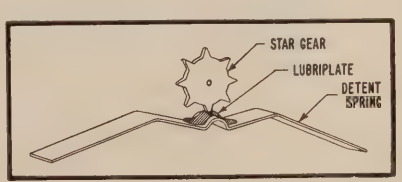


FIG. 2: POINT of lubrication in tuner detent spring. Both sides of the point of contact on the detent spring, as well as the point of contact, should be well lubricated.

‡*Based on a report by* ***Fran J. Chamberlain****, Clarostat Manufacturing Co., Inc.*

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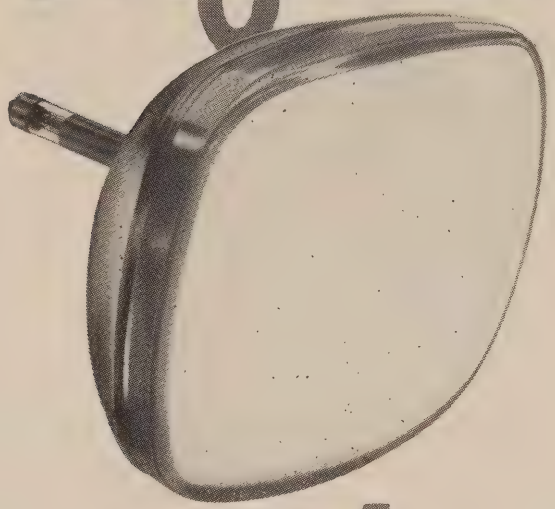
TV
picture

Rely on the tube that has always been specified by leading independent set makers.

Blue Chip Quality

TUNG-SOL®

Magic Mirror Aluminized

PICTURE TUBES

TUNG-SOL ELECTRIC INC., Newark 4, N. J. Sales Offices: Atlanta, Ga.; Columbus, Ohio; Culver City, Calif.; Dallas, Tex.; Denver, Colo.; Detroit, Mich.; Irvington, N. J.; Melrose Park, Ill.; Newark, N. J.; Seattle, Wash.

CATALOGS—BOOKS

JFD ELECTRONICS, INC., 6101 16th Ave., Brooklyn 4, N. Y., has published two brochures to stimulate indoor antenna and TV accessory business. The indoor-antenna brochure (6 pages), which describes and illustrates JFD indoor antennas now in use, from the deluxe Magic Genie to the Venus table-top rabbit ear model, can be used as a streamer or reference to the line covering applications and specifications of the various models. . . . The second circular describes outdoor and indoor set couplers, outdoor-indoor antenna couplers, wave traps, baluns, impedance matching transformers, antenna isolators, attenuators and switches. [SERVICE]

* * *

THE HOWARD W. SAMS & CO., INC., 2201 E. 46th St., Indianapolis 5, Ind., has issued volume 7 of the *Tube Location Guide* series, which show chassis layout of TV receivers, types of tubes used, and function of each tube. Also included is a *tube failure check chart* which lists the tubes which are to be suspected when the indicated trouble is experienced. . . . Volume 7 covers 160 chassis (approximately 500 models) of TV receivers produced in '56 and '57, including three color-TV chassis. . . . Contains 204 pages; priced at $2.00. [SERVICE]

* * *

THE RADIO-ELECTRONIC MASTER, 60 Madison Avenue, Hempstead, N. Y., has compiled a chart on panel and flashlight lamps. Chart is a composite listing, arranged numerically, of panel and flashlight lamps manufactured by Chicago Miniature, G. E., National Carbon (Eveready), RCA, Raytheon, Tung-Sol and Westinghouse. [SERVICE]

* * *

CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF RADIO ELECTRONICS, 4900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 3, O., has issued a 24-page booklet, *Opportunities in Electronics for You,* designed to provide pictorial coverage of opportunities in electronics, plus thumbnail descriptions of many of the available employment opportunities. [SERVICE]

* * *

UNIVERSITY LOUDSPEAKER, INC., 80 S. Kensico Avenue, White Plains, N. Y., has published a 12-page illustrated catalog covering high fidelity speakers, systems and enclosures, and do-it-yourself enclosure kits. Also detailed are paging and talk-back speakers, heavy duty trumpets and driver units, submergence-proof speakers, portable soundcasting systems, and super-power projectors. [SERVICE]

* * *

THE 1958 POCKET-SIZE EDITION of the *RCA Reference Book* is now available through RCA distributors. Contains 216 pages of information on RCA tubes, test equipment, batteries, transistors, and semiconductor diodes. Includes a *Quick Selection Guide* of RCA power tubes, *crt*, phototubes, special tubes, and semiconductor devices, as well as 50 pages of receiving tube characteristics, with base and envelope diagrams. Picture tube characteristics and socket diagrams occupy 13 pages. Also has *Interchangeability Directories* for tubes, transistors, and batteries, a daily reminder calendar, and 16 pages of world maps in color. [SERVICE]

* * *

THE HICKOK ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENT CO., 10521 Dupont Ave., Cleveland 8, O., has prepared an 8-page composite test equipment catalog, *form SM-31.* Compilation lists 24 instruments including color generators and the *Cardmatic* automatic tube tester. [SERVICE]

* * *

BUSSMANN MANUFACTURING CO., University at Jefferson, St. Louis 7, Mo., has issued a 52-page TV fuse chart booklet which shows proper fuses to use for TV, as well as auto-radios and Christmas-tree light sets. Detailed also are fuse mounts and information on circuits fuse protects. [SERVICE]

* * *

MERIT COIL AND TRANSFORMER CORP., 4427 N. Clark St., Chicago 40, Ill., has released a wall-chart-type exact replacement guide for transformers, flybacks, yokes and coils. [SERVICE]

ASSOCIATIONS

TEA, Fort Worth, Texas

THE FIRST ISSUE of the *TEA Times* has been published by the Texas Electronics Association, Inc.

Contents include an editorial by TEA president *W. J. Inman, Sr.*, stressing the need for strong business and technical educational programs and unified participation among Service Men and associations; also local association news, technical service tips, and minutes of recent meetings. The journal also contains an announcement that the fifth annual clinic will be held in Dallas, Texas, at the Baker Hotel on August 1, 2 and 3, 1958. Chairman of the convention is *Tillman Babb.*

* * *

RTTA, California

HENRY C. LEVECK has been elected president of the Radio-Television Technicians Association of Orange County, Calif.

Others named include *George Morgan,* vice president; *Gordon Maurer, treasurer,* and *Francis Rice,* secretary.

* * *

IRTSA, Wis.

AT A RECENT MEETING of the Indianhead Radio - TV Servicemen's Association, Wis., *Len Rubbert,* an instructor at Northwest Radio and Television Schools, Minneapolis, Minn., appeared as a guest speaker and covered *the proper method of obtaining an overall response curve* and *proper TV alignment procedures,* explaining an alignment process on a misadjusted set and showing the differences in alignment for fringe areas and local reception.

* * *

NATESA

THE CURRENT ISSUE of the NATESA 'Scope features a letter from FCC chairman *John C. Doerfer,* thanking members of the association for their cooperation in filling out and returning the industry questionnaires on TV reception conditions submitted by the Television Allocations Study Organization in Washington.

TEN YEARS AGO IN SERVICE

THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER of the Radio Technicians Guild held a two-day technical-business session. Plans were made to form ten state guilds which would become members of a Radio Technicians Guild of New York State. *Bertram L. Lewis* was named chairman of a ten-man guild committee. *William Brewerton* was named to assist Lewis. *David Boyce,* president of RTG, said the federation would help exchange information on trade techniques, provide for standardization of servicing procedures and establish codes which would promote good will and better business. Among those at the meeting were *Ben DeYoung,* president of the Ithaca chapter, Technicians Guild; *E. M. Howland,* who represented the Hudson Valley Radio Servicemen's Association; *Leo N. Burt* of the Jamestown Radio Men's Association, and *Ted Telaak,* president of The Buffalo Servicemen's Association. . . . One of the guest speakers at the meeting, *Dave Krantz,* described the operation of the Federation of Radio Servicemen's Associations of Pennsylvania, of which he was chairman. Other speakers at the sessions were *A. C. W. Saunders* and *B. V. French.* . . . The Whaling City Chapter of the Radio Technicians Guild in New Bedford, Mass., was reorganized and *Al Wobecky* elected president. *John Santos, Harry Wood* and *Albert Gagnon* were appointed as a committee to study revision of the bylaws. . . . The first annual convention of the Federation of Radio Servicemen's Associations of Pennsylvania was announced for January 11-13, 1948, at the Bellevue-Stratford hotel in Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Radio Service Men's Association was named convention host. . . . Scheduled as a feature of the convention was the Town Meeting of Radio Technicians, a joint undertaking of RMA, the Sales Managers' Club, NEDA, EPEM and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of The Representatives, with the assistance and cooperation of FRSAP and PRSMA.

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how long would it take you to solve this service problem?

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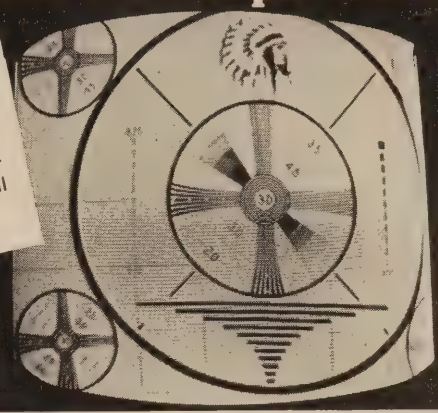
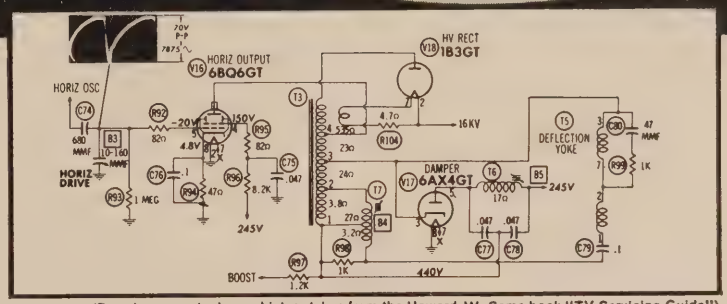
helps you lick problems like this in just minutes for only *2½¢ per model!

SYMPTOM:
Horizontal Foldover affecting the right side of the screen, accompanied by an overall reduction in width





(Based on an actual case history taken from the Howard W. Sams book "TV Servicing Guide")

Let's look at this problem: When the foldover occurs at the right side of the picture, the trouble usually originates in the horizontal discharge or output circuits. Look for the following possible causes:

1. Defective tube in the flyback circuit
2. Leaky coupling capacitor (C74)
3. Misadjusted or defective drive control
4. Open or leaky capacitor (C76) in the cathode of the output stage
5. Incorrect value of the grid resistor (R93) in the horizontal output stage
6. Open or leaky screen bypass capacitor (C75) in the output stage
7. Incorrect value of the cathode resistor (R94) in horizontal output stage
8. Incorrect value of the screen resistor (R96) in horizontal output stage
9. Defective yoke or flyback transformer

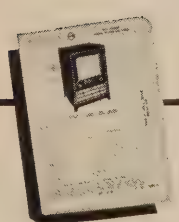
With the applicable PHOTOFACT Folder at your fingertips, you'll trouble-shoot and solve this problem in just seconds. Here's-how:

Using the Tube Placement Chart (you'll find it in every PHOTOFACT TV Folder) you'll quickly locate and check the tubes in the Flyback Circuit. Tubes okay?—then: A waveform analysis of the signal in the sweep section is perhaps the quickest procedure you can use to localize the trouble. Check the waveform at the junction of the two capacitors, B3 and C74. The correct waveform and peak-to-peak voltages are shown right on the PHOTOFACT Standard Notation Schematic. Waveform incorrect?—Then, using the easy-to-read resistance chart and the correct voltages shown on the schematic, check for proper resistance and voltage values to determine which part is defective. The exclusive PHOTOFACT chassis photos with "call-outs" keyed to the schematic help you locate the faulty part quickly. Important! Horizontal Foldover may result from improperly matched components in this circuit. It is *imperative* that all parts replaced duplicate the originals. You'll find the proper replacement parts for all components listed in the complete PHOTOFACT parts list.

Remember, whatever the trouble may be, you'll locate it faster and solve it easier and more profitably with a PHOTOFACT Folder by your side.

Use the servicing method you prefer—checking of waveform, voltage or resistance—you'll find all the information you need at your finger-tips in PHOTOFACT. For only *2½¢ per model, PHOTOFACT helps you solve your service problems in just minutes—helps you service more sets and earn more daily!

*Based on the average number of models covered in a single set of PHOTOFACT Folders.



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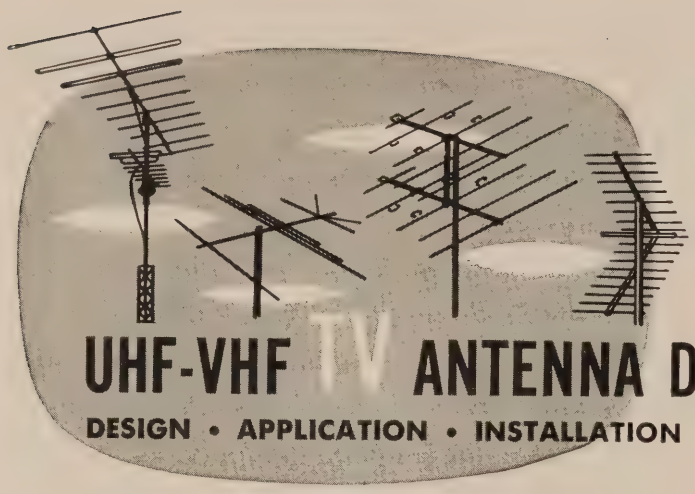


UHF-VHF TV ANTENNA DIGEST

DESIGN • APPLICATION • INSTALLATION • SERVICE

*A Report on a Recent Nationwide Investigation Which Reveals Existence of a Large Market for TV Antennas Among Those Who Still Use Weird Inefficient Home-Made Setups**

EVEN IN THIS modern day and age—with many homes enjoying the use of two and even three television receivers—a vast army of set owners are still resorting to the most primitive methods for manufacturing home-produced antennas. In fact, many set owners have never used either an indoor or an outdoor antenna.

But, it is these self-same, self-made, do-it-yourselfers who plague the lives of the Service Man because reception is not of the finest.

Even in some rural areas set owners have been depending upon so-called built-in antennas to bring in pictures which are shaky, snowy, blurred and almost illegible.

The biggest violators of good reception appear to be in the south and the southwest, where normally an antenna of the finest make, designed for fringe reception, has trouble bringing any picture due to distance.

Research finds that set owners resort to some unique approaches to producing their own antennas—often defying the poor Service Man to discover why reception is poor when the set is in perfect working order.

One woman, for example, found some bailing wire somewhere, managed miraculously to attach it to the antenna leadin and then tossed the end of the wire out of the nearest window after running it under a rug.

Some owners—believed to run in the five figures—use the same bailing wire without tossing the end out of the window and then complain the loudest because the Service Man cannot discover the reason for snow or flurring.

Probably the most popular *indoor antenna* in the southwest appears to be rebent coat hangers. Simply, *rabbit ears* are made out of coat hangers, some plain wire is attached, and the reshaped coat hanger is connected to the leadin and all hope for the best. Naturally, the best is not forthcoming.

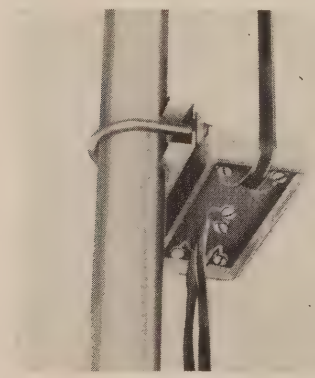
Thousands of set owners are particular. They go to a supply house and buy twin leadin. They do the attaching to the set and then (having read something somewhere that bed springs are exceptionally good receiving antennas) attach the other end to the nearest bed or sofa spring or even to a radiator or just throw them out of a window, since a window can be shut tightly over them.

Even though the 98-cent rabbit-ear antenna is rapidly going out of business, many set owners were still using them and still complaining loudly.[1]

The biggest puzzler for the Service Man is the set owner who insists upon

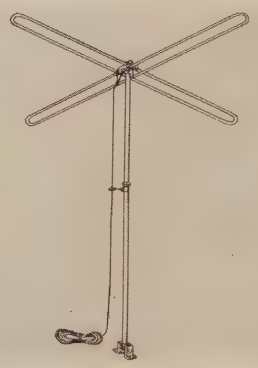
(*Continued on page* 41)

*Based on a national study by Snyder Manufacturing Co. through the company's distributors and field men and coordinated by national sales manager **Dick Morris**.*



OUTDOOR TV RECEIVER coupler which can be installed on mast by means of a U-bolt assembly. Device is encapsulated in colplast. Insertion loss is claimed to be reduced by utilization of distributed-line-parameter network of bifilar coils and location of components; design also provides increased isolation between receivers.—Types AC-40, AC-60, AC-70; JFD Manufacturing Co., Inc., 6101 Sixteenth Ave., Brooklyn 4, N. Y. [SERVICE]

SINGLE-STAFF 4-SECTION GOLD-TONE indoor antenna designed for mounting on back of set. Features tuned vertical polarization. Mast can be rotated. Has a directronic switch.—Wun/Rod 9-D; Snyder Mfg. Co., 22nd and Ontario, Philadelphia, Pa. [SERVICE]



FM ANTENNA, of turnstile design, which features a self-supporting base. Available as a kit with ⅜″ aluminum elements and 60′ transmission line.—Telco FM Antenna Kit (A-124); Telco Electronics Mfg. Co. (a division of General Cement-Textron), 400 S. Wyman St., Rockford, Ill. [SERVICE]

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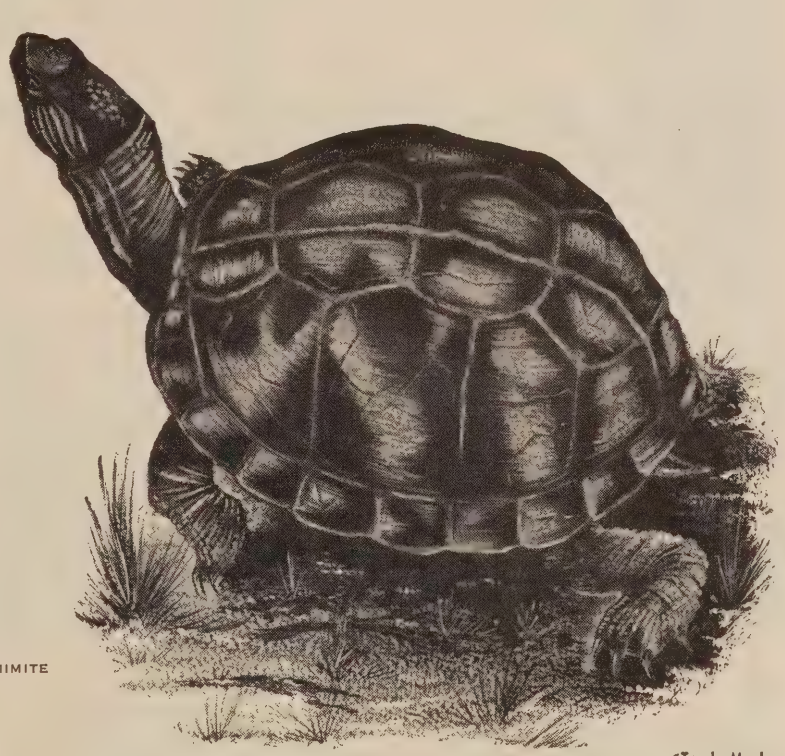

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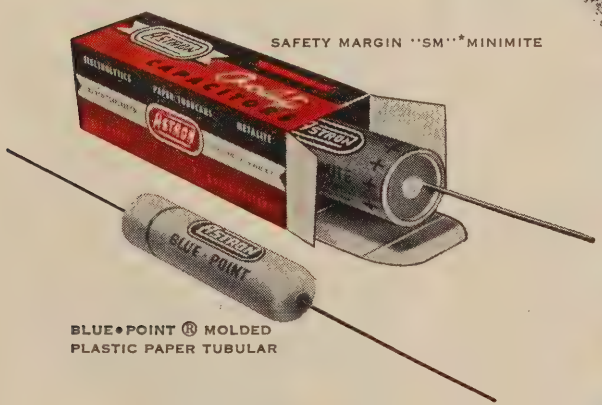

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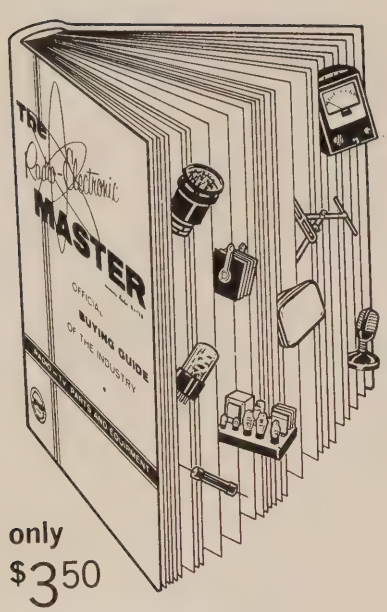

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ACCESSORIES

PIX TUBE BASE ADAPTER

A 110° PICTURE TUBE base adapter, D1 Adapt-It, for converting RCA 110° picture-tube bases to duo-decal type for test purposes, has been announced by Workman TV, Inc., 309 Queen Anne Rd., Teaneck, N. J.

* * *

PIX TUBE REJUVENATOR

A TV PICTURE-TUBE rejuvenator, Kure-all, for use with parallel or series wired circuits, has been introduced by Anchor Products Co., 2712 W. Montrose Ave., Chicago 18, Ill.

Device is said to cure open cathodes, heater-cathode shorts, open-cathode grids, control-grid shorts, slow heating, low emission or any combination of these.

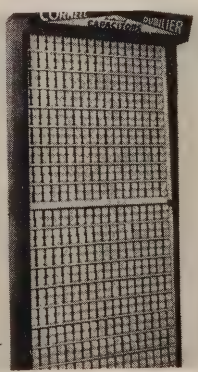
* * *

MARINE-RADIO LOOP EXTENSION KIT

A THROUGH-THE-DECK loop extension kit, 8230, for use on boats with space and heavy metal-work interference problems, has been developed by Kaar Engineering Corp., Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, Calif.

Kit permits mounting of direction-finder receiver against the overhead and extension of the loop through the cabin on a 14" support column, putting top of the loop 32" from the bottom of the receiver cabinet.

Self-Service Capacitor Display Rack



FLOOR RACK for C-D preferred-type list of twist-prong electrolytics. Each single-section rack with canopy holds 360 cartons, or 720 cartons for the dual-section unit. Units are available in single or multiple sections, with or without canopy display.—Cornell-Dubilier Electric Corp., South Plainfield, N. J. [SERVICE]

COMPONENTS

MINIATURE WIRE TANTALUM CAPACITORS

MINIATURE WIRE TANTALUM capacitors, WT, for low-voltage *dc* applications, such as transistor audio amplifiers, have been developed by Aerovox Corp., New Bedford, Mass.

Operating temperature range is from —20° C to +50° C. Of polar construction, capacitor case and attached lead form the cathode terminal and are available in insulated or non-insulated construction. Anode tantalum wire extends through teflon bushing to which a solder lead is attached. Welded connection is encapsulated in a thermosetting resin. Units are color-coded to indicate capacitance and voltage ratings. [SERVICE]

* * *

PLUG-SCREW MOUNT SILICON RECTIFIER

A SILICON RECTIFIER that may be screwed onto the chassis or plugged into a holder has been introduced by the rectifier division of Audio Devices, Inc., 620 E. Dyer Rd., Santa Ana, Calif.

Hermetically-sealed, unit is rated at 750 *ma* at 400 *v*. [SERVICE]

* * *

PUSH-PULL SWITCH VOLUME CONTROL

AN AC LINE switch, with push-pull action, is now available on volume controls manufactured by P. R. Mallory and Co. Inc., 3029 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis 6, Ind.

The line circuit closes when the control shaft is pulled out, opens when the shaft is pushed in. Volume, it is said, always remains at proper level because the set is turned on at the same volume at which it is turned off.

The push-pull switch uses a *floating ring* contact action that gives protection against overloads. It is available on single and dual Mallory controls in ratings to match original controls in popular radio and TV sets.

Capacitor Contest Winners

GRAND PRIZE WINNERS in Pyramid's Serviceman's twist-mount capacitor contest who won a weekend in New York plus a cash award. Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Sidney White, Cross Island Electronics, Bellrose, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. R. Berthold, Springfield Gardens, N. Y. Berthold won the grand prize. As Berthold's distributor, White, manager of Cross Island Electronics, received a duplicate grand prize. [SERVICE]

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A Report on TV Tubes Designed for Wide-Angle Chassis . . . Replacements for Color and B-W TV Receivers . . . Hi-Fi Audio Tubes . . . Auto-Radio 12-V Tubes

THREE NEW-TYPE tubes[1] have been developed for wide-angle TV receivers.

One, an octal-based T-9 high perveance, low-mu triode (6CK4) has been designed for use as a vertical deflection amplifier.

The tube features a maximum plate dissipation of 12 watts and an average cathode current of 100 *ma*.

Intended for receivers with high accelerating potentials, the 6CK4 is said to incorporate a plate capable of conservative operation at rated dissipation. At the same time, the base pin has been isolated electrically to withstand high pulse plate voltages.

The others are 9-pin (T-6½) miniature beam power pentodes (6DW5 and 12DW5), also for use in vertical-deflection amplifiers.

Both tubes, capable of operation at relatively low *B* supply voltages, are characterized by high zero-bias plate current. Double base pins for the number-1 grid permit cooler operation. An electrically isolated plate pin is said to help each tube withstand high pulse plate voltages.

Type 12DW5 features controlled heater warmup time for operation in receivers utilizing a 600-*ma* series heater string; the 6DW5 has been designed for operation in conventional transformer sets.

B-W/Color-TV Replacements

TWO TUBES, the 6BJ8 and 5V3, are now available as replacements for b-w and color-TV chassis.[2]

The 6BJ8 is a heater-cathode type medium-mu triode and double diode miniature designed for use as a phase splitter, phase comparator and horizontal-deflection oscillator. It has a 600-*ma* heater rating.

The 5V3 is a filament type, high-vacuum, double diode. Its principal application is as a full-wave rectifier in the power supply of color-TV receivers and in other equipment of high current requirements.

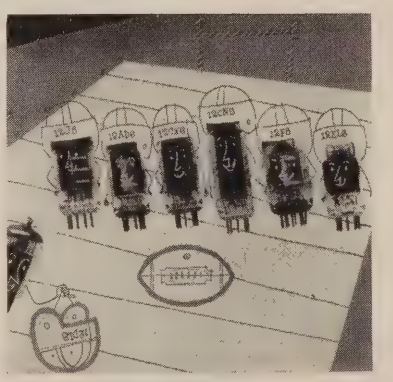
Sharp-Cutoff Twin Pentodes

SHARP-CUTOFF TWIN pentodes of the 9-pin miniature type (3BU8 and 6BU8), intended for use in sync circuits and automatic-gain-controlled amplifier circuits of TV receivers, have been announced.[3]

In such receivers, one pentode unit performs the function of combined sync separator and sync clipper; the other pentode unit serves as an automatic-gain-controlled amplifier.

Each utilize a common cathode, grid 1 and 2. In addition, grid 1 and 3 of each type have a separate base-pin terminal and may be used independently as a control electrode.

The 3BU8 has been designed for use in receivers employing series heater-string arrangements and is like the 6BU8 except that it has a 3.15-*v*/.6-*a* heater.



TWELVE-VOLT miniatures designed to operate directly from an automobile's battery-generator supply (left to right): 12J8, a 9-pin audio driver; 12AD6, a 7-pin pentagrid converter; 12CX6, a 7-pin rf pentode; 12CN5, a 7-pin if amplifier; 12F8, a 9-pin double diode pentode audio driver, and 12EL6, a 7-pin double diode triode audio amplifier—Sylvania. [SERVICE].

Miniature Beam Power Tube

A BEAM-POWER tube (6973) of the 9-pin miniature type (6.3 *v* at 450 *ma*), for use as an output tube in high-fidelity audio equipment, is now available.[3]

Design is said to feature linear operation over a wide range of power, high power sensitivity and stability.

20-Watt Output

In push-pull class AB_1 audio service, two 6973's, operating at a plate voltage of 350, grid-2 voltage of 280, and fixed grid-1 voltage of -22, can deliver, it is claimed, a maximum-signal power output of 20 *w* with a total harmonic distortion of 1.5 per cent.

Tube has double base-pin connections for both grid 1 and 2 to provide cool operation of these grids and to minimize grid emission. Cool operation of both grids also permits use of relatively high values of grid-circuit resistance to reduce driving power.

12 Volt Auto-Radio Tube

A MINIATURE 9-PIN combined twin diode and space-grid tetrode (12DL8) with independent unipotential cathodes, has been announced for auto radios.[1]

Detector-Amp Application

The diode section is intended for use as a detector, while the tetrode section, a power amplifier, has been designed to drive transistor audio output stages. All tube elements, including the heater, operate at a potential of 12 *v*, obtained directly from the automobile battery.

Miniature Audio Pentode

Also recently announced for audio is a 6BQ5 miniature pentode.[1]

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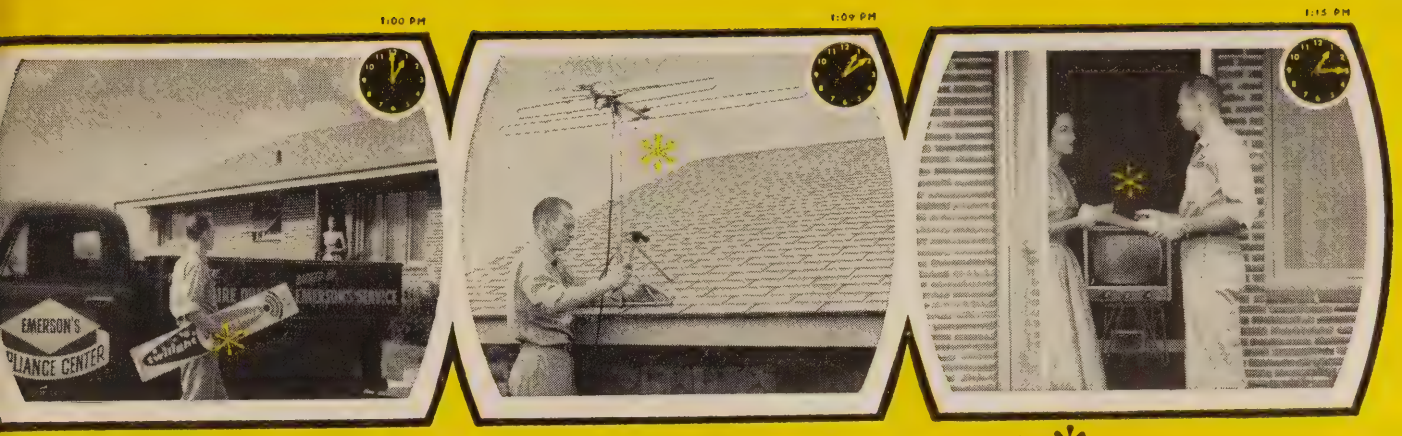
[1] *Sylvania.* [2] *Raytheon.* [3] *RCA.*



Picture of a smart TV technician making a dollar a minute on his way back from lunch

* *"Naturally . . . it's the GOLD Twilight Antenna by Winegard Co. Dept. E-12 BURLINGTON, IOWA"*

Semiconductor Developments

Latest Information on New Types of Transistors and Diodes

A PNP GERMANIUM-ALLOY high-voltage power transistor has been added to the renewal line of Sylvania Electric Products Inc.

The transistor, type 2N296, has been designed for high-voltage power amplifier and switching applications in which 25 to 60-*v* supply voltage is required.

Features welded hermetic seal construction and has a collector current of two *a*.

Junction IF Amp Transistors‡

GERMANIUM-ALLOY junction transistors of the *pnp* type (2N409 and flexible-lead version, 2N410) have been designed for 455-kc *if* amplifier applications in transistorized portable radios.

Both are said to feature a power gain of 31.2 db in a common-emitter type of fixed circuit that sacrifices gain to provide stability and interchangeability. The neutralizing network of this circuit is fixed. The amount of gain sacrificed is minimized by manufacturing controls on the transistor parameters, particularly the parameters responsible for system feedback.

These transistors are hermetically sealed and utilize a metal case.

Junction Transistors for Converters‡

TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS of converter and mixer-oscillator applications in the AM broadcast band, *pnp* junction transistors (2N411 and flexible-lead type 2N412) have been developed.

In a common-emitter type of fixed circuit, these transistors are claimed to have a conversion power gain of 32 db at 1 mc.

These transistors are also hermetically sealed in a metal case.

HF Drift Transistors‡

DRIFT TRANSISTORS (2N370, 2N371, and 2N372) of the germanium *pnp* type are now available for all-wave battery-portables. The 2N370 is intended for *rf* amplifier service, the 2N371 for oscillator service, and the 2N372 as a mixer.

The 2N370, 2N371, and 2N372 look alike. They are hermetically sealed in metal cases, have a diameter of .360″ a body height of .375″ and four flexible leads. One of the leads provides shielding to minimize interlead capacitance and to minimize coupling to adjacent circuit components, of primary importance in *hf* applications.

‡*RCA*.

Silicon Rectifiers

A LINE of diffused silicon rectifiers (M14) has been announced by Motorola.

The rectifiers are available in peak inverse ratings of 100 through 600 *v* with average forward currents of 500 *ma*, and with the case common to either cathode or anode.

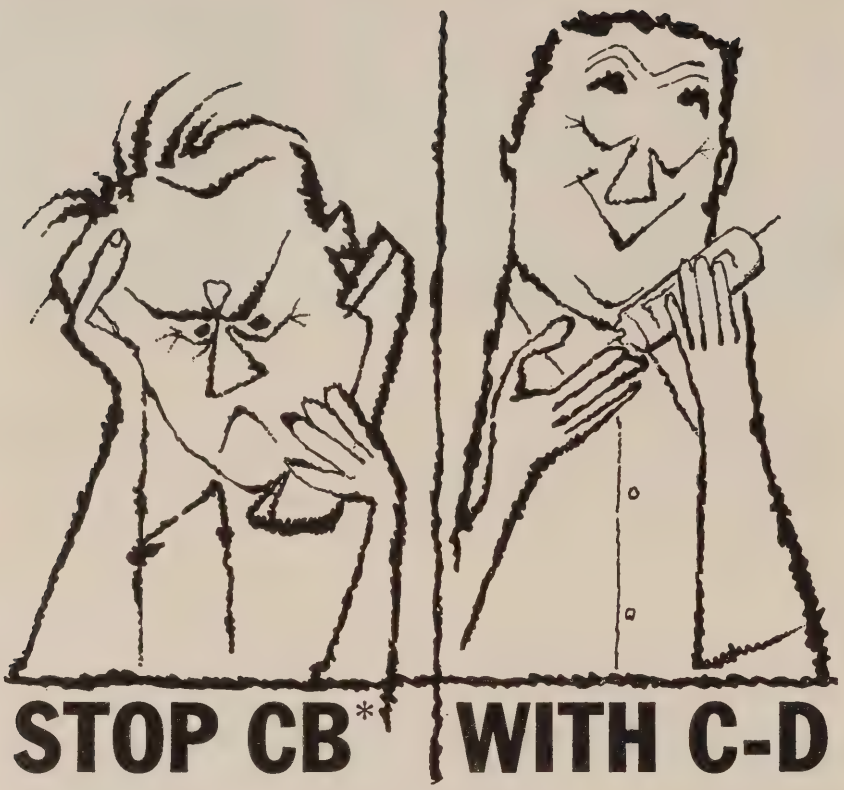
Three silicon rectifiers have also been announced by Sarkes-Tarzian.

Two are high-current types, rated at 150 and 200 amperes (types X and W) and the third type is a high-voltage half-wave rectifier (S-5033) that can be used as a direct replacement for several octal based rectifier tubes.

Silicon Junction Diodes

A SUBMINIATURE SILICON JUNCTION diode, 1N658, has been brought out by General Instrument Corp.'s semiconductor division through its Radio Receptor subsidiary. The new diode has been designed for computer, communications and general circuit requirements.

The 1N658 features a forward voltage drop under 1 at 100 *ma*, with a .3-*usec* reverse recovery. Peak inverse voltage is 120, with a reverse leakage of .05 *ua* at −50 *v*.



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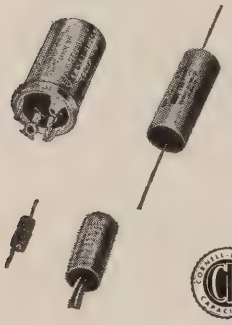
Electric Corp., South Plainfield, New Jersey.



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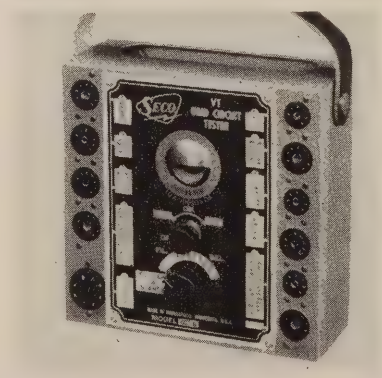
GRID CIRCUIT TUBE TESTER

A GRID CIRCUIT tube tester, GCT-8, for checking critical-control grid condition of tubes, has been introduced by the Seco Manufacturing Co., 5015 Penn Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

Said to provide as many as 11 simultaneous tests on a typical pentode such as the 6AU6. Presence of any one or a combination of the following faults, it is claimed, will register as *bad* on an electron-eye indicator: control grid emission, grid-to-cathode shorts, gaseous condition, cathode-to-heater shorts, grid-to-heater shorts, grid-to-plate shorts, plate-to-heater shorts, grid-to-screen shorts, screen-to-heater shorts, heater-to-suppressor shorts and grid-to-suppressor shorts. [SERVICE]

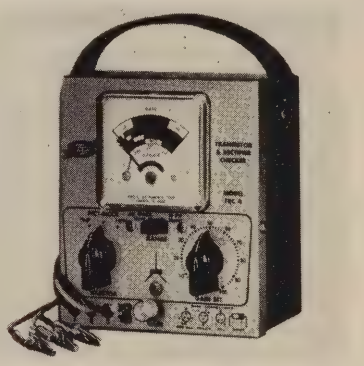


TEST INSTRUMENTS

TRANSISTOR CHECKER

A TRANSISTOR CHECKER, TRC4, which also tests crystal diodes and selenium rectifiers, has been developed by Service Instruments Corp., 171 Official Rd., Addison, Ill.

Tests for opens, shorts, current gain and leakage on transistors and forward-to-reverse currents on crystal diodes and rectifiers. [SERVICE]



* * *

STABILIZED VTVM WIDE-BAND VIDEO AMP

A STABILIZED VTVM, *Microlter*, without feedback, said to afford wide-band accuracy to 50 *mc*, has been announced by Kay Electric Co., Maple Ave., Pine Brook, N. J.

Unit permits measurement of low-level *rf* signals down to 250 *uv*. Has a 7-position switch which provides full-scale steps of 1, .3, .1, .03, .01, .003 and .001 *v*. Instrument can also serve as a wide-band video amplifier with a maximum output of approximately .25 *v* at 75 ohms and gains of up to 40 db. Input capacitance is 5 mmfd. [SERVICE]

* * *

MULTI-PURPOSE TEST SET

A TRANSISTORIZED MULTI-PURPOSE portable test set, TU546, to facilitate aligning and testing of mobile and base-station transmitters and receivers, has been announced by Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc., 4501 W. Augusta Blvd., Chicago 51, Ill.

Unit includes a built-in PM speaker for audio reception. An audio-frequency electronic voltmeter permits measurement of *ac* voltages below 2 *v*. An *if* oscillator circuit provides crystal-controlled *if* frequencies between 280 *kc* and 13 *mc*. A 455-*kc* crystal is included for alignment of the last *if* and discriminator stages.

Can be used to measure A+ and B+ in both receivers and transmitters, grid and plate current in the transmitter, relative field strength of radiated signals, transmitter power output and receiver quieting sensitivity. A transistorized *rf* peaking generator, available as an accessory, provides crystal-controlled *rf* output for *rf* peaking of 25-54, 144-174, 450-470, and 890-960 *mc* receivers. [SERVICE]

PORTABLE VOM

An improved model of *vom* 260 (*series III*), featuring a polarity-reversing switch, spread scales and a printed circuit, has been introduced by Simpson Electric Co., 5200 W. Kinzie St., Chicago 44, Ill.

Unit provides a 50 *ua*-250 *mv* current range for coverage in six steps; *dbm* ranges from —20 to +50, 1 *mw* in 600 ohms; *ac* sensitivity of 5000 ohms/volt; and frequency response of 5 to 500,000 *cps*. A full-wave bridge rectifier system is used. [Service]

* * *

TWO-SETTING TUBE TESTER

A tube tester, Fast-Check *FC*-1, has been announced by Century Electronics Co., Inc., 111 Roosevelt Ave., Mineola, N. Y.

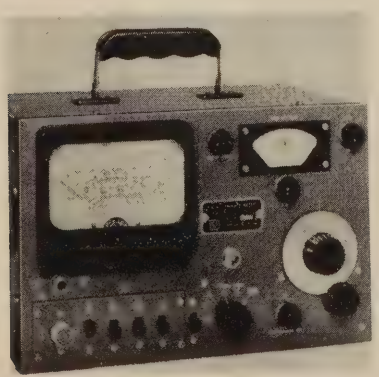
Two settings on panel board are said to check for quality, shorts and life expectancy of more than 600 tube types, including series-string TV tubes, auto-battery type 12 plate-volt tubes, OZ4's, magic-eye tubes and gas regulators. Tester has 41 sockets to accommodate present and future types. A D'Arsonval-type meter with multi-color scales is used. Twelve filament voltages are provided and unit is line isolated to eliminate shock or short hazards. Seven and nine pin straighteners are mounted on the panel. Reference charts showing instant setting for more than 600 tube-types are included. A picture tube adapter, *AD*-1, said to check all picture tubes, including short-neck 110° types, is available. [Service]

* * *

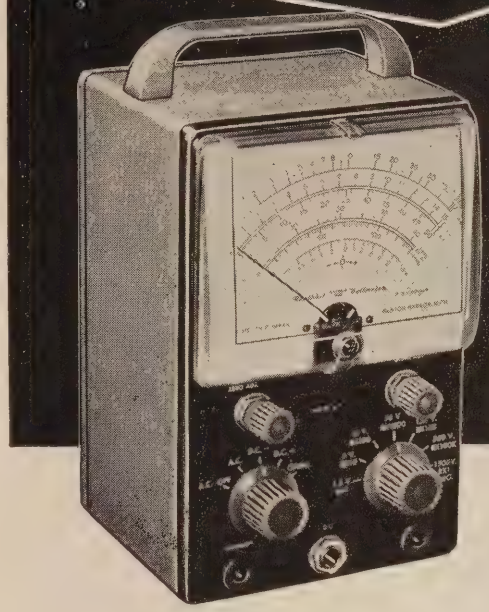
FIELD STRENGTH METER

A battery-operated *vhf* field-strength meter, FSM-1, tuning continuously from 54 to 216 *mc*, has been developed by Blonder-Tongue Laboratories, Inc., 9-25 Alling St., Newark 2, N. J.

Unit covers *vhf* TV, FM, aircraft, mobile, amateur and special service bands. Addition of a *uhf* converter expands signal readings to complete *uhf* TV range. Exact signal strengths can be read from 10 *uv* to 3 *v*. Meter includes a phone jack, front-panel attenuator switches, db and percentage AM modulation scales, and balun to handle 300-ohm inputs. [Service]



look what $24.50 buys in test equipment!



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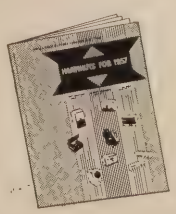

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Tape Recorder-Playback

(*Continued from page* 19)

ing level may be set before the tape is set into motion. To record, it is necessary to depress and latch both the *monitor* and *play* pushbuttons simultaneously. This avoids erasure of prerecorded tapes if one pushbutton were accidently depressed.

THREE BASIC TYPES of microphones (l to r) bidirectional, unidirectional, and omnidirectional, which can be used for tape recording. All three can be mounted on table stands as pictured, or placed on floor stands. The omnidirectional unit is particularly suited for use as a hand-carried unit and can be worn as a lavalier microphone.—Shure Brothers, Inc., 222 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, Ill. [SERVICE].

POLYSTYRENE container for tape which can be stacked or hung on a wall by means of a dovetail slot in the back and a fitted strip. Package also includes a tape-time ruler to permit accurate measurement of elapsed and remaining time.—Ferrodynamics Corp., Lodi, N. J. [SERVICE].

TV Power Transformers

(*Continued from page* 15)

steel plate welded to one end shell (Fig. 1—p. 14), and on a horizontal chassis it uses two mounting brackets similar to those used for other transformers. In the original horizontal mounting these mounting brackets were larger than usual and were provided with vent holes because the entire fin assembly was above chassis. The present horizontal mounting (Fig. 3—p. 15) uses short brackets and the fins protrude through holes in the chassis to take advantage of the cooler air available from openings in the cabinet bottom.

Service Notes

(*Continued from page* 25)

dangerous, because while it would not burn out, the entire set would be exposed to overloads.

Such burnouts indicate excessive line-voltage-surge conditions that must be compensated for if components are to operate within their rating. In such instances there's need for a line-voltage regulator or ballast that can be installed in conjunction with the replacement. The ballast actually compensates for line-voltage variations over a considerable range, thereby providing extra protection.

TV Antennas

(*Continued from page* 32)

using a cheap rabbit-ear antenna and attaching two receivers to one antenna.

What is the answer to all of this?

The Service Man is the answer. He has to do a selling job. He has to educate the set owner into a top quality installation of top quality antennas. If he doesn't, the primitive do-it-yourselfer will continue to be the bane of his existence.

[1]*A previous Snyder investigation found that the average set owner purchased up to four dollar-type antennas within two years because of dissatisfaction with reception.*

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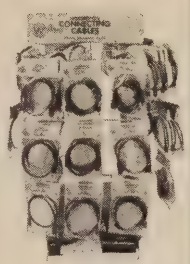
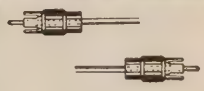


Look for this WALSCO display at your distributor. A complete assortment for your every need. Dozens of tenite shielded cables with phono pin plugs, jacks, phone plugs and alligator clips in a wide variety of combinations—in lengths up to 72".



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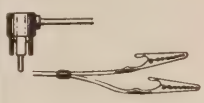

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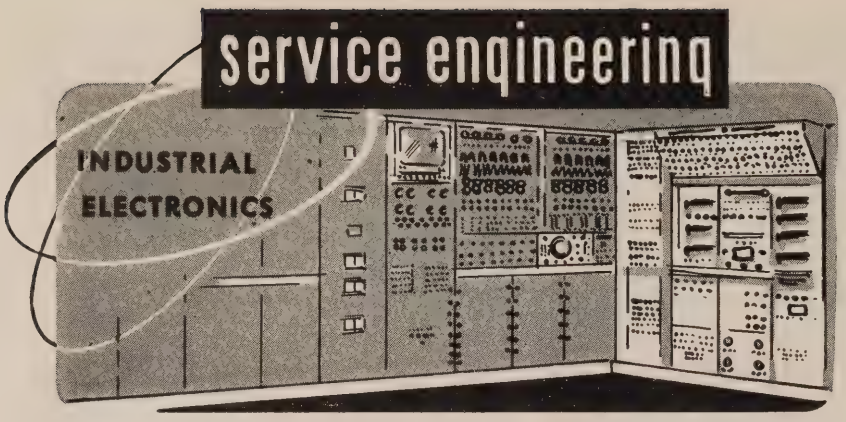


Servicing Carrier-Current Wireless Intercoms

WIRELESS INTERCOM systems consist of two or more fixed two-way units which operate at low radio frequencies, with signals being conveyed over the power lines via a *carrier current*. Each unit consists of a simple radio receiver and radio transmitter. As in wired-intercom systems, the loudspeaker serves both as a loudspeaker and microphone.

Installation is simple. Wires for conveying audio signals from one unit to another are not required. Instead, the audio signal is used to modulate a radio transmitter. The *rf* signal is fed over the power lines and the receiver in the second intercom unit demodulates the *rf* signal. When more than two intercom units are used, party-line communication results. In other words, speech and sounds picked up by unit *A*, for example, are picked up by units *B*, *C*, and *D*. Likewise, when unit *B* is set to the *talk* position, units *A*, *C*, and *D* intercept signals being transmitted by unit *B*.

In wired systems, of course, it is possible for a person at unit *A*, if it is a master unit, to select individually units *B*, *C*, and *D*. In wireless systems which operate on one frequency, all intercom units are called simultaneously. Of course, it would be possible to provide selective calling of slave units from a master unit by providing the master unit with a means for changing the transmitter frequency and by tuning each of the slave units to an individual frequency. However, this is seldom done and therefore most wireless intercom systems operate on a party-line basis.

While, theoretically, all that is required to install a wireless-intercom system is to plug into the line, trouble may be encountered due to losses in the power lines. Some equipment is provided with an extra terminal which is connected to ground or directly between units, as illustrated in Fig. 1. A wire may be connected to the terminal on each unit so that all units in a system are directly connected by the wire and indirectly through the power line. Optionally, but with somewhat more transmission loss, the terminal of each unit may be grounded to the screw that holds the cover plate on the power receptacle or to some other ground.

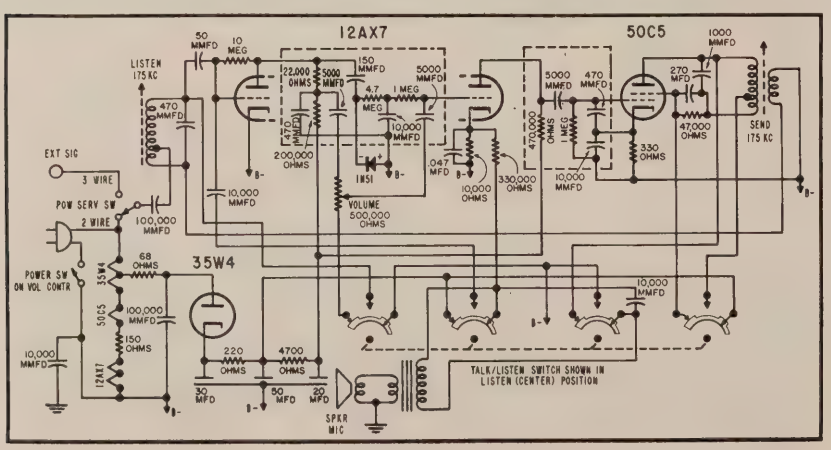
In one type of wireless intercom[1] (Fig. 2.), the direct-wire or ground terminal leads to a tap on the receiver tuning coil. A switch is provided for selection of either the two-wire or three-wire transmission arrangement. When installing wireless-intercom equipment, regardless of whether the two-wire or three-wire hookup is used, the power plug at each unit should be plugged in one way and then reversed to determine which will provide the most satisfactory results.

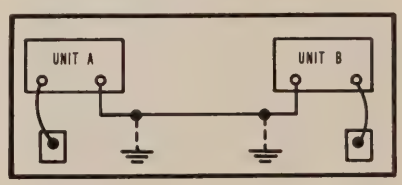
The Fig. 2 wireless-intercom circuit features a grid-leak type detector tuned to 175 kc and a two-stage audio amplifier. A 12AX7 dual triode is used as the detector and first audio stage. And a 50C5 audio power amplifier functions as the *rf* oscillator or transmitter, also tuned to 175 kc.

A unique feature of the intercom shown in Fig. 2 is the squelch circuit which silences the receiver until an *rf* signal is picked up from another unit. A part of the intercepted *rf* signal is fed through an *rc* filter network to a 1N51 diode. In the presence of an *rf* signal of sufficient amplitude, a positive voltage is built up across the diode which reduces the bias on the first audio stage permitting it to amplify incoming signals. When no signal or a very weak signal is present, the first audio stage is cut off by the biasing action of the cathode-resistor network. Bias is reduced when the unit is set to *send* so that the first audio stage will amplify. In *send* position, the stage referred to as the first audio stage actually becomes the second stage which grid modulates the 50C5 oscillator stage.

While the procedure for aligning wireless intercom units may differ among various makes, the general principles described here are applicable. To align the receiver an *rf* signal generator tunable to 175 kc is

(*Continued on page* 45)





(Above)

FIG. 1: BLOCK DRAWING of a typical link between intercom units.

(Left)

FIG. 2: SCHEMATIC of Bennett model 100 wireless intercom.

[1]*Bennett Laboratories, Inc., Redwood City, Calif.*

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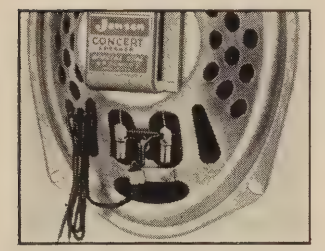
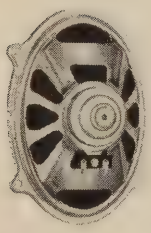


Three-way universal terminal-lead arrangement is especially convenient. Tip jacks fit Ford-Lincoln-Mercury rear seat pin terminals; twin lead for splicing to front seat plug cable; solder lugs for general use.



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New high fidelity models **will give superior wide range performance and added power handling capacity for a noticeable improvement in auto radio sound quality.**

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Nominal Size Inches	Model No.	Magnet Weight* Ounces	Voice Coil			Dimensions, Inches			List Price
			Imped. Ohms	Power Watts	Dia. Inches	H. & W.	Depth	Baffle Opening	
5 x 7	P57-U	1.73†	3.2	8.0	1	5 x 7¼	2½	4¼ x 6½	$7.20
5 x 7	P57-TX§	2.5‡	3.2	9.0	1	5 x 7¼	2 13/16	4¼ x 6½	8.35
6 x 9	P69-U	1.73†	3.2	9.0	1	6⅜ x 9⅛	3⅛	5¼ x 8⅛	7.80
6 x 9	P69-T	2.5‡	3.2	10.0	1	6⅜ x 9⅛	3 5/16	5¼ x 8⅛	8.65
6 x 9	P69-TX§	2.5‡	3.2	10.0	1	6⅜ x 9⅛	3 5/16	5¼ x 8⅛	8.95
VIKING SERIES									
5 x 7	57-J9	1.47	3.2	6.0	¾	5 x 7¼	2 9/16	4¼ x 6¼	5.85
6 x 9	69-J9	1.47	3.2	7.5	¾	6⅜ x 9⅛	2 15/16	5¼ x 8⅛	6.50

§High Fidelity Model. *All Magnets DP Alnico 5.
†Performance Equivalent to RETMA 2.15 oz. ‡Performance Equivalent to RETMA 3.16 oz.

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Audio

(*Continued from page 21*)

from wobble. If tape hits reel intermittently coincident with noise, noise is probably caused by warped condition of the tape reels.

To correct, the warped reel should be replaced. Care should be used in storing reels to prevent future warpage; however plastic reels should be considered expendable.

In the second analysis of the problem, if the reel is not warped, but wobble is noted, the probable cause is a high spot on one side of the reel spindle casting. This can be corrected by wrapping spindle with a cloth to prevent filings falling into the mechanism. High spot should be filed or sandpapered; to remove excess material retouch with lacquer.

Tools required are a file, piece of 00 sandpaper, small amount of lacquer, and a brush.

Amplifier Hiss‡

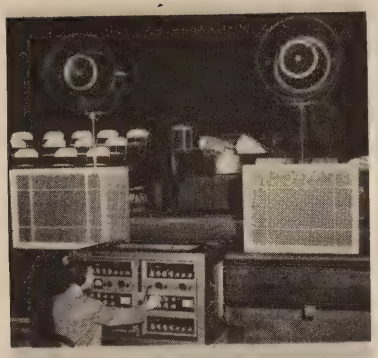
A SMALL CONSTANT *hiss* is often emitted from an amplifier when the tone control is on full treble and volume is at maximum. This is most apparent when no recorded sound is on tape.

This can be detected by depressing stop key, turning volume control up full and turning tone control to full treble; a low *hiss* may be heard.

Actually, this is not a defect. Any amplifier system capable of reproducing a full range of tones will have a small amount of *hiss* most noticeable in the higher frequency range. The presence of a certain amount of amplifier *hiss* is actually one of the criteria of a playback music system capable of high-fidelity response.

COAXIAL THREE-ELEMENT speaker available in both 12″ and 15″ sizes. In these units, a dual diaphram affords lf and mid-range performance, while a compression driver supertweeter covers the higher frequency range.—Type CX; Jensen Mfg. Co., 6601 S. Laramie Ave., Chicago 38, Ill. [SERVICE].

(*Continued from page* 42)



VIEW OF FRONT center stage before a performance of Fred Waring's Hi-Fi Holiday, currently touring the nation and featuring a sound reinforcement system to preserve musical balance and perspective, regardless of acoustical properties of the theater. Electronic conductor, in pit at master amplifier controls, tests speakers prior to their being placed around the theater.—System developed by University Loudspeakers, Inc., 80 S. Kensico Ave., White Plains, N. Y., uses Classic consoles and WLC Hi-Fi Speakers. [SERVICE].

SHIELDED TENITE cables with molded-on connectors for use with hi-fi systems and sound equipment. Supplied in lengths from 10" to 72", with various combinations of phono pin plugs and jacks, alligator clamps, spade lugs and phone jacks. —Walsco Electronics Manufacturing Co., 100 W. Green St., Rockford, Ill. [SERVICE].

required as the signal source. A *dc vtvm* is needed as an output indicator.

The hot output lead of the signal generator is connected to the external signal (or ground) terminal and the ground lead of the signal generator is brought to the chassis of the intercom unit. The hot lead of the *vtvm* is connected to the minus terminal of the 1N51 diode and the ground lead to the other side of the diode. The three-wire two-wire switch is set to the three-wire position.

The signal generator is adjusted to 175 kc and with the *vtvm* set to the 3-volt scale an unmodulated signal is applied. The signal generator output control should be set so that only a small deviation of the *vtvm* is noted. The receiver-coil tuning slug should be adjusted for maximum reading on the *vtvm*, reducing signal generator output to prevent more than 3 *v* being developed across the diode.

The transmitter is aligned by connecting the *rf* signal generator's hot lead to the external signal generator's hot lead to the external signal (or ground) terminal on the unit and the ground lead of the signal generator to the chassis. An *ac vtvm* or a 'scope is also connected to the external signal terminal and chassis. With the signal generator set to deliver a 1-*v* signal (unmodulated) the transmitter tuning coil slug should be adjusted, with the intercom unit in *send* position, until the 'scope or the *vtvm* indicate zero beat condition. The point to be remembered is that the transmitter should be adjusted to the same frequency as the receiver (175 kc) as closely as possible. Zero-beat condition may be determined by slight retuning of the signal generator to note

(*Continued on page* 46)

"You're sewing with my JENSEN NEEDLE again, I see."

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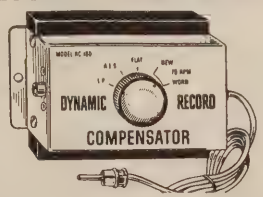

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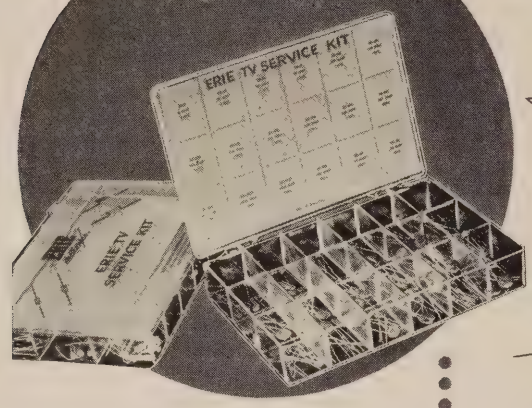

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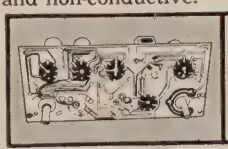

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Service Engineering

(*Continued from page* 45)

the point where the two signals are out of phase with each other and cause a minimum output indication. When a *vtvm* is used, it should be set on the 3-*v* scale.

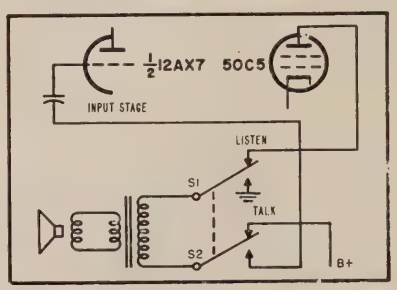
The intercom illustrated was designed to produce an *rf* signal of 2 watts; the receiver delivers 2 watts of audio to the speaker with maximum useable signal applied. While it is possible to build wireless intercom systems which transmit a stronger signal and hence would have greater range, there is the possibility that the signal would radiate further from the power lines than now permitted by FCC rules.

Still another adaptation of wireless intercom is a one-way unit; a wireless microphone which is picked up on a standard AM broadcast receiver. This device can be used for monitoring a nursery, serving as an electronic baby sitter. It picks up sounds in the room and transmits them over the power lines. The unit can be tuned to any clear spot within the AM broadcast band between 500 and 800 kc. One chassis[2] recently developed uses three tubes; a 12AU6 as an audio amplifier, a 50C5 as a grid-modulated *rf* oscillator and a 35W4 rectifier.

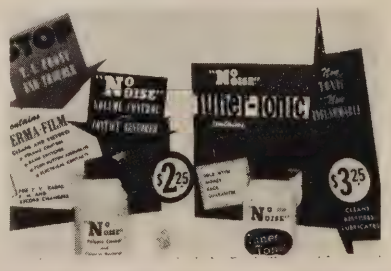
To align this equipment the transmitter's *rf* coil is tuned to the desired frequency. This is done by setting a radio receiver to a clear spot between 500 and 800 kc and then adjusting the tuning slug for maximum signal.

[2]*Bennett model 300.*

FIG. 3: SWITCHING system in an intercom where speaker functions as a listening and transmitting device.



Noise-Control Displays



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BENCH-FIELD TOOLS

SOLDERING IRON HANDLE

A HEAVY-DUTY SOLDERING-IRON handle, 880, for continuous-use applications, has been announced by the industrial division of Ungar Electric Tools, Inc., 4101 Redwood Ave., Los Angeles 66, Calif.

Features include a stainless-steel heat reflector to lower handle temperature; high-temperature insulation for continuous use; flexible 18-gauge (65-strand No. 36 wire) rubber insulated 6′ cord with molded protector. [SERVICE]

* * *

WORK BENCH-DESK

A COMBINATION work-bench and desk for repair, test and light assembly jobs has been introduced by the Nebauer Manufacturing Co., 521 Lowry Ave. N. E., Minneapolis 18, Minn.

Has metal-edged, masonite top (54″ x 25″) and two shallow drawers—a narrow one for paper and a wide drawer subdivided into 24 compartments for parts and small tools; also two large file drawers for blue prints, circuit drawings, and instructions manuals, and two open storage shelves for test equipment and extra supplies. Drawers may be inserted from back to reverse kneehole position. Legs are fitted with adjustable glides. [SERVICE]

* * *

LIGHTWEIGHT SOLDERING PENCIL

A PENCIL-TYPE soldering iron (25), designed for high-temperature use, has been announced by Oryx Co., 9015 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif.

Unit is said to achieve tip temperatures of 1000° F while handle remains cool. Features a 25-*w* built-in element supplied with replaceable 3/16″ nickel-end tip; ¼″ copper-chrome alloy tips are also available. Operates on 12 *v*, 2 amps, *ac* or *dc*. Can be operated from a battery supply or 110 *v ac* using a step-down transformer. [SERVICE]

* * *

COLOR-TV MICROSCOPE

A 25-POWER microscope, designed for calibration of the mosaic of color-TV tubes, has been introduced by D. P. Bushnell and Co., Inc., 412 Bushnell Bldg., Pasadena, Calif.

An extensible foot serves to equalize effect of TV tube curvature and permits focusing to a depth of 70 mm. Interchangeable opaque and transparent bases allow the unit to use either reflected or transmitted light. [SERVICE]

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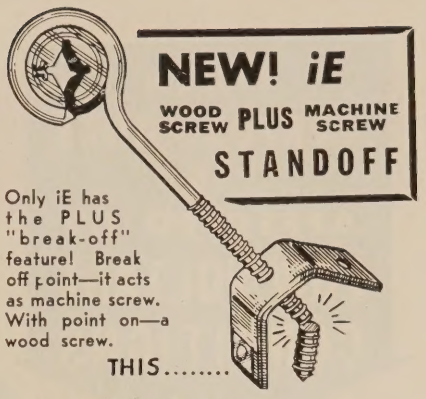
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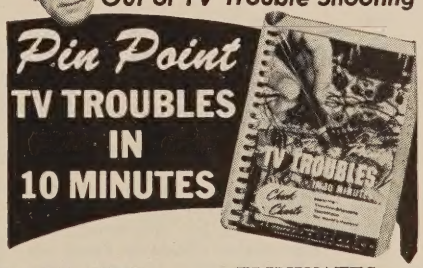

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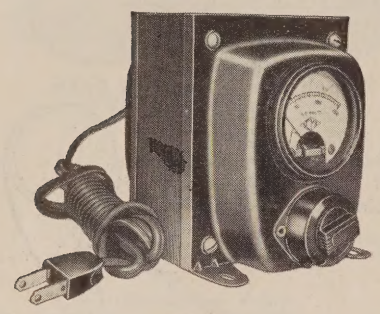
WHEN PERFORMANCE IS AFFECTED BY LOW VOLTAGE CONDITIONS



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TV sets are designed to operate best when voltage holds closely to 115-117 volts. Overloaded supply lines (the power industries greatest problem) may result in a voltage drop of 10 to 15% at certain times of day. Usually the TV set will function in a fashion under such low voltage conditions but with a great strain on its components. For example; narrowing of picture, output stage tube life shortened, frequent burn-out of filaments, fuzzy focus have been traced to lack of proper voltage.

These conditions can be corrected with an Acme Electric T-8394M Voltage Adjustor. Simply plug-in to convenient outlet. Plug-in television set cord into female receptacle built into adjustor. Voltmeter indicates output voltage. If voltage is incorrect turn regulating control until proper voltage is reached for best performance. Voltage range 95 to 125 volts. Tell your supply dealer you want the Acme Electric T-8394M. No other so compact, practical, inexpensive.

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4712 WATER STREET CUBA, NEW YORK

Acme ACME Electric
TRANSFORMERS

PERSONNEL

WILLIAM J. NAGY has been appointed general sales manager of the accessory division of Philco Corp., Philadelphia 34, Pa.

* * *

THOMAS P. CLEMENTS has been promoted to national service manager of Admiral Corp., 3800 Cortland St., Chicago 47, Ill.

* * *

LEE GUNTER, JR., has been promoted to chief development engineer of Shure Brothers, Inc., 222 Hartrey Ave., Evanston, Ill. . . . *Robert Troxel* is now chief products engineer of the company.

Gunter

Troxel

* * *

JACK YOUNT Co., Dallas, Tex., has been appointed representative for Tobe Deutschmann Corp., in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas (with the exception of El Paso county).

* * *

CLARENCE F. JENSEN has been appointed chief engineer of Jensen Industries, Inc., 7333 W. Harrison, Forest Park, Ill.

Jensen

* * *

CRUMP SMITH has been named manager of institutional and export advertising, and coordinator of trade shows and exhibits for U. S. divisions and subsidiaries of International Telephone and Telegraph Corp., 67 Broad St., New York 4, N. Y.

* * *

ROBERT W. REDECKER has been named manager, sales and merchandising, consumer products service, RCA Service Co., Inc., Cherry Hill, Delaware Township, Camden 8, N. J.

* * *

ROBERT M. STEVENS has joined Zenith Radio Corp., 6001 W. Dickens Ave., Chicago 39, Ill., as advertising manager.

* * *

MORTIMER SUMBERG has been named to handle all commercial distributor sales for the Bogen-Presto division of the Siegler Corp., Paramus, N. J. . . . *Thomas L. Aye* has joined the division as head of professional product sales.

* * *

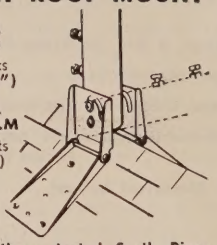
S. K. MAGEE has been promoted to manager, sound merchandising, theatre and industrial products department, RCA, Camden, N. J.

ask the "Man-on-the-Roof" why he prefers South River

COMBINATION PEAK & FLAT ROOF MOUNT

MODEL PFM-30
(Fits Masts up to 1½")

MODEL PFM-30 LM
(Fits Masts up to 2")



Features the patented South River "Walk-Up" — "Drop-Lock" mast socket for easy installation on either Peak, Flat or Pitched roofs. Heavy gauge pipe mast socket has two heavy duty screws and locknuts to secure mast. Factory assembled and supplied in a heavily plated rust resistant finish. U.S. PAT. #2734708

WRITE FOR NEW 1957 CATALOG

SOUTH RIVER METAL PRODUCTS CO., INC.
South River, New Jersey

pioneer & outstanding producer of finest line of antenna mounts

SENCORE

Another Sencore Time-Saver

Handy "36" R-C Substitution Unit

"36" Most Often Needed Components At YOUR Fingertips!

3 pole, 12 position switch individually selects one of the "36" components for direct substitution.

Contains:

* 12—1 watt 10% resistors from 10 ohms to 5600 ohms
* 12—½ watt 10% resistors from 10K ohms to 5.6 megohms
* 10—600 volt capacitors from 100-mmfd. to .5mfd.
* 1—10mfd., 450V Electrolytic
* 1—40mfd., 450V Electrolytic

ONLY $12.75 DEALER NET

Completely isolated

★ For Shop, Lab, or outside service

AVAILABLE AT ALL PARTS DISTRIBUTORS!

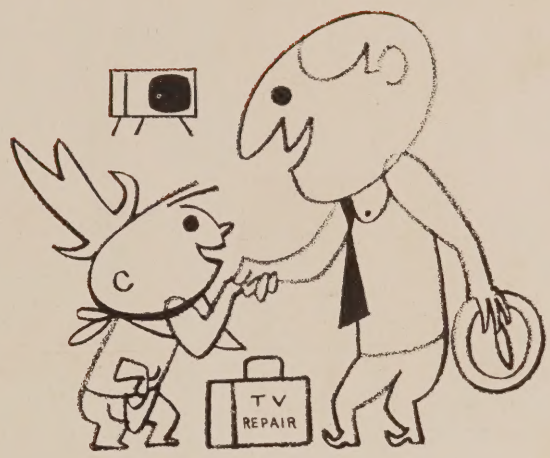
SENCORE SERVICE INSTRUMENTS CORP.
171 OFFICIAL RD., ADDISON, ILL.

POPULAR SENCORE PRODUCTS
- Transistor Tester
- Leakage Checker
- Filament Tester
- Voltage Regulator
- Bias Supply

Cut out this ad now for further information.

Reputation Builder #3: it pays to be neat

• Treat a set-owner's home like a dog house and you're likely soon to be living in one



• BUT . . . treat his possessions as you would your own, and you'll always be an honored guest

it pays to replace with Sprague Atom® Miniature 'Lytics

• Another way to build and hold a reputation is to insist on top quality replacement parts. Callbacks due to replacement failures not only cost you *money* . . . they also cost you customers! Replace with less than the best and you place your reputation at stake. In capacitors, the best is *Sprague*.

• Take Atom Tubular Electrolytics, for example. The smallest TV 'lytics made, they're the only small ones for 85°C (185°F) up to 450 VDC. Guaranteed for low leakage and long shelf life, they withstand high temperatures, high ripple currents, high surge voltages. From crowded TV chassis to jam-packed portables, Sprague Atoms fit them all.

• Get your copy of Sprague's latest radio and TV service catalog, C-456. Write Sprague Products Co., Distributors' Division of Sprague Electric Company, 61 Marshall Street, North Adams, Mass.

don't be vague...insist on

SPRAGUE®

world's largest capacitor manufacturer

SPRAGUE RESEARCH IS CONSTANTLY PRODUCING NEW AND BETTER CAPACITORS FOR YOU

"CHECKUP" at RCA

...assures a "healthy" line of tubes for replacement in home radios, automobile receivers, phonographs, and TV sets!

Fast service, efficient service—*without time-taking callbacks due to early hour tube failures*—are the vitamins, minerals, proteins and plasma of the healthy service business. "Out-of-the-carton" and "right-into-the-set" is the service dealer's dream. And RCA's rigid program of production-line testing and warehouse sampling converts it to reality.

Tests for shorts, heater-cathode leakage, and transconductance help weed-out the weaklings—assure superior-quality tubes. And where low noise and low microphonics are essential to top performance, certain tubes undergo visual and acoustic tests. Before RCA tubes are put into the famous red-and-black RCA carton they are tested all over again at the warehouse for "solid" shorts "flicker" shorts, and continuity. Add to this RCA's quality monitor: *microscopic inspection* of welds, seals, stems, and electrodes of all popular-types and new-type receiving tubes used in black-and-white and color-TV sets, and automobile receivers...and you have powerful reasons why RCA tubes are preferred by manufacturers of electronic equipment and by you who service it. So, never ask your distributor for "tubes" alone. Always specify: RCA TUBES!

Your "Profit Builders" Catalog

...now available from your RCA TUBE DISTRIBUTOR... lists and describes the many promotional, business, service, and technical aids RCA offers to service dealers. Get your copy and start building more profits right away.

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RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
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